STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re	: Timothy Herbert	Case No.: FEC 21-156
то:	Timothy Herbert 4733 58th Street North	Kyle L. Cummings 5193 Lake Charles Drive North
	Kenneth City, FL 33709-3613	Kenneth City, FL 33709

NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARING (IH))

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on **February 7**, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: 402 South Monroe Street, 12 HOB, Tallahassee, Florida 32399. Due to heightened security access requirements, please bring only essential items into the building and plan to arrive early to allow for delays coming through security.

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

If you are the Respondent, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 minutes to present your case to the Commission. However, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless you request to be heard or the Commission requests that your case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, your case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are the Complainant, you may attend the hearing, but you will *not* be permitted to address the Commission. In addition, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless the Respondent requests to be heard or the Commission requests that the case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, the case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are an Appellant, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 *minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

Please be advised that both confidential and public cases are scheduled to be heard by the Florida Elections Commission on this date. As an Appellant, Respondent or Complainant in one case, you will *not* be permitted to attend the hearings on other confidential cases.

The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission January 19, 2024 Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission,
Petitioner,

Case No.: FEC 21-156
v.

Timothy Herbert,
Respondent.

ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE

THIS MATTER was heard by the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 15, 2023, in Tallahassee, Florida.

On September 28, 2023, Staff recommended to the Commission that there was probable cause to believe that the Florida Election Code was violated. The facts articulated in Staff's Recommendation are adopted by reference and incorporated herein. Based on the Complaint, Report of Investigation, Staff's Recommendation, and oral statements (if any) made at the probable cause hearing, the Commission finds that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with the following violations:

Count 1:

On or about February 17, 2021, Timothy Herbert violated Section 106.143(1)(a), Florida Statutes, when he paid for and displayed political advertisements that contained express advocacy but did not include a proper disclaimer.

THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Count 2:

On or about February 17, 2021, Timothy Herbert violated Section 106.143(6), Florida Statutes, when he failed to use the word "for" between his name and the office for which he was running, in political advertisements, when he was not incumbent.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Florida Elections Commission on November 15, 2023.

Tim Vaccaro, J.D., Executive Director

For Chad Mizelle, Chairman Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:

Mattie T. Clay, Assistant General Counsel

Timothy Herbert, Respondent

Kyle L. Cummings, Complainant

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A HEARING

As the Respondent, you may elect to resolve this case in several ways. First, you may elect to resolve this case by <u>consent order</u> where you and Commission staff agree to resolve the violation(s) and agree to the amount of the fine. The consent order is then presented to the Commission for its approval. To discuss a consent order, contact the FEC attorney identified in the Order of Probable Cause.

Second, you may request an <u>informal hearing</u> held before the Commission, if you <u>do not</u> dispute any material fact in the Staff Recommendation. You have thirty (30) days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to make written or oral arguments to the Commission concerning the legal issues related to the violation(s) and the potential fine. At the request of Respondent, the Commission will consider and determine willfulness at an informal hearing. Otherwise, live witness testimony is unnecessary.

Third, you may request a <u>formal hearing</u> held before an administrative law judge in the Division of Administrative Hearings ("DOAH"), if you dispute any material fact in the Staff Recommendation. You have thirty (30) days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to present

evidence relevant to the violation(s) listed in this order, to cross-examine opposing witnesses, to impeach any witness, and to rebut the evidence presented against you.

If you do not elect to resolve the case by consent order or request a formal hearing at the DOAH or an informal hearing before the Commission within thirty (30) days of the date this Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission, the case will be sent to the Commission for a formal or informal hearing, depending on whether the facts are in dispute. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order.

To request a hearing, please send a written request to the Commission Clerk, Donna Ann Malphurs. The address of the Commission Clerk is 107 West Gaines Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050. The telephone number is (850) 922-4539. The Clerk will provide you with a copy of Chapter 28-106, *Florida Administrative Code*, and other applicable rules upon request. No mediation is available.

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Case No.: FEC 21-156

		/	
то:	Timothy Herbert	Kyle L. Cummings	
	4733 58th St N	5193 Lake Charles Drive Nor	rth
	Kenneth City, FL 33709-3613	Kenneth City FI 33709	

In Re: Timothy Herbert

NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION (PCD))

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **November 15, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.,** *or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard*, at the following location: **402 South Monroe Street, 12 HOB, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.** Due to heightened security access requirements, please bring only essential items into the building and plan to arrive early to allow for delays coming through security.

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

If you are the Respondent, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 minutes to present your case to the Commission. However, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless you request to be heard or the Commission requests that your case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, your case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are the Complainant, you may attend the hearing, but you will *not* be permitted to address the Commission. In addition, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless the Respondent requests to be heard or the Commission requests that the case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, the case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are an Appellant, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 *minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

Please be advised that both confidential and public cases are scheduled to be heard by the Florida Elections Commission on this date. As an Appellant, Respondent or Complainant in one case, you will *not* be permitted to attend the hearings on other confidential cases.

The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission October 31, 2023 Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Timothy Herbert	Case No.:	FEC 21-156
/		

STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION

Pursuant to Section 106.25(4)(c), Florida Statutes, undersigned staff counsel files this written recommendation for disposition of the sworn complaint in this case recommending that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Sections 106.143(1)(a) and 106.143(6)**, Florida Statutes. Based upon a thorough review of the Report of Investigation submitted on May 26, 2023, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

- 1. On February 26, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") received a sworn complaint from Kyle L. Cummings ("Complainant") alleging that Timothy Herbert ("Respondent") violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
- 2. Respondent was a 2021 candidate for Town of Kenneth City Councilmember. Respondent's Statement of Candidate form ("DS-DE 84") was filed on December 11, 2020. (ROI Exhibit 2, page 1)¹ Respondent was a first-time candidate and was defeated. (ROI, page 1, P1; ROI Exhibit 5, page 1; ROI Exhibit 6, page 2)
- 3. By letter dated July 6, 2022, the Executive Director notified Respondent that Commission staff would investigate the following statutory provisions:

Section 106.143(1)(a), Florida Statutes: Respondent, a 2021 candidate for the Town of Kenneth City Councilmember, may have paid for and distributed political advertisements that contained express advocacy but did not include a proper disclaimer, as alleged in the complaint.

Section 106.143(6), Florida Statutes: Respondent, a 2021 candidate for the Town of Kenneth City Councilmember, may have improperly failed to use the word "for" between his name and the office for which he was running, in political advertisements, as alleged in the complaint. Respondent was not incumbent.

4. On December 11, 2020, Respondent filed his Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates form ("DS-DE 9") appointing himself as treasurer for his campaign. (ROI Exhibit 1, page 1; ROI Exhibit 6, page 1)

_

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ The Report of Investigation is referred to herein as "ROI."

5. Respondent signed an acknowledgment form on the same date in which he acknowledged receiving a complete copy of the Town of Kenneth City Candidate Information Packet. Respondent acknowledged that he understood all election information and forms could be found on the Division of Election's website. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 1; ROI Exhibit 6, pages 1-2) Finally, Respondent acknowledged that he was provided access to read and understand the requirements of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. (ROI Exhibit 2, page 1)

Alleged Violation: Section 106.143(1)(a), Florida Statutes

- 6. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida's election laws by failing to include a proper disclaimer on a political advertisement.
- 7. Candidates are required to prominently mark their political advertisements with the exact political disclaimer language as set forth under Section 106.143(1)(a), Florida Statutes, i.e., "Political advertisement paid for and approved by (name of candidate), (party affiliation), for (office sought)" or "Paid by (name of candidate), (party affiliation), for (office sought)." The Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook also references the statutory requirement and provides examples of disclaimers for non-incumbent candidates. (ROI Exhibit 7, pages 2-5)
- 8. The political advertisement at issue is a yard sign which contains language that expressly advocates for the election of a candidate: "VOTE Herbert Kenneth City *Town Council* 2021." Complainant provided four photographs of the yard sign, none of which displayed a political disclaimer. (ROI Exhibit 4, pages 1-4)
- 9. Respondent did not reply to the investigation. (ROI Exhibit 8, pages 1 & 3) However, Respondent replied to the complaint and acknowledged that he did not have the correct disclaimer on his signs. Respondent stated that he did his best to correct what he could by placing stickers on the signs. Respondent did not provide additional information to corroborate his statement or to show that his stickers displayed the correct statutory language. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 1)
- 10. Respondent paid for and displayed political advertisements that did not include a proper disclaimer.

Alleged Violation: Section 106.143(6), Florida Statutes

- 11. Complainant alleged that Respondent, a non-incumbent candidate, violated Florida's election laws by failing to include the word "for" between Respondent's name and the office for which Respondent was running on political advertisements.
- 12. Pursuant to Section 106.143(6), Florida Statutes, non-incumbent candidates are required to use the word "for" between their name and the office for which they are running so that incumbency is not implied. The *Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook* references the statutory requirement and provides examples of political advertisements for non-incumbent candidates. (ROI Exhibit 7, page 6)
- 13. The political advertisement at issue states, "VOTE Herbert Kenneth City *Town Council* 2021." (ROI Exhibit 4, pages 1-4)

- 14. Respondent did not reply to the investigation. (ROI Exhibit 8, pages 1 & 3) In his response to the complaint, Respondent acknowledged that his signs failed to include the correct statutory language. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 1)
- 15. Respondent, who was not the incumbent, failed to include the word "for" between his name and the office for which he was running on political advertisements.
- 16. "Probable Cause" is defined as reasonable grounds of suspicion supported by circumstances sufficiently strong to warrant a cautious person in the belief that the person has committed the offense charged. *Schmitt v. State*, 590 So. 2d 404, 409 (Fla. 1991). Probable cause exists where the facts and circumstances, of which an [investigator] has reasonably trustworthy information, are sufficient in themselves for a reasonable man to reach the conclusion that an offense has been committed. *Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles v. Favino*, 667 So. 2d 305, 309 (Fla. 1st DCA 1995).
- 17. The facts set forth above show that Respondent was a 2021 candidate for Town of Kenneth City Councilmember. Respondent paid for and displayed political advertisements that did not include a proper disclaimer. Respondent, who was not the incumbent, failed to include the word "for" between his name and the office for which he was running on political advertisements.

Based upon these facts and circumstances, I recommend that the Commission find probable cause to charge Respondent with violating the following:

Count 1:

On or about February 17, 2021, Timothy Herbert violated Section 106.143(1)(a), Florida Statutes, when he paid for and displayed political advertisements that contained express advocacy but did not include a proper disclaimer.

Count 2:

On or about February 17, 2021, Timothy Herbert violated Section 106.143(6), Florida Statutes, when he failed to use the word "for" between his name and the office for which he was running, in political advertisements, when he was not incumbent.

Respectfully submitted on September 28, 2023.

Mattie T. Clay

Assistant General Counsel

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this 26th day of September 2023.

Stephanie J. Cunningham

General Counsel

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case No.: FEC 21-156

Respondent: Timothy Herbert Counsel for Respondent: N/A

Complainant: Kyle L. Cummings Counsel for Complainant: N/A

On February 26, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) received a complaint alleging that Respondent violated Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. Commission staff investigated whether Respondent violated the following statutes:

Section 106.143(1)(a), Florida Statutes, Respondent may have paid for and distributed political advertisements that contained express advocacy but did not include a proper disclaimer, and;

Section 106.143(6), Florida Statutes, Respondent may have improperly failed to use the word "for" between his name and the office for which he was running in political advertisements though Respondent was not incumbent.

I. Preliminary Information:

- 1. Respondent was a 2021 candidate for Town of Kenneth City Councilmember; he was defeated in the municipal election on March 9, 2021. Respondent was a first-time candidate.
- 2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 9) was filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of Kenneth City (Town Clerk) on or about on December 11, 2020. Respondent was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 9, refer to Exhibit 1.
- 3. Respondent filed a Statement of Candidate with the Town Clerk on or about December 11, 2020, in which he certified he had been provided access to read and understand the requirements of Chapter 106, F.S. To review a copy of the Statement of Candidate, refer to Exhibit 2.
- 4. Respondent signed an acknowledgment form on December 11, 2020. By signing the form, Respondent acknowledged that he had received a complete copy of the Town of Kenneth City Candidate Information Packet. Respondent also acknowledged that he understood all election information and forms could be found on the Division of Election's website. To review the acknowledgement form, refer to Exhibit 3.

II. Alleged Violation of Sections 106.143(1)(a) and 106.143(6), Florida Statutes:

- 5. I investigated whether Respondent violated these sections of the election laws by paying for and distributing political advertisements that contained express advocacy but did not include a disclaimer, and by failing to use the word "for" between his name and the office for which he was running in political advertisements though Respondent was not incumbent.
- 6. Complainant provided copies of four photographs of the political advertisement signs at issue. All four photographs show identical sign(s) stating, "VOTE Herbert Kenneth City *Town Council* 2021." All of the signs depicted in the photographs are void of disclaimers, and none of them include the word "for" between Respondent's name and the office for which he was running. To review the photographs of signs, refer to Exhibit 4.
 - 7. In an email to Commission staff, Respondent stated, "I, Timothy Herbert do acknowledge

ROI (07/16)

that the claims about my signs were true that initially I did not have correct disclaimers on them. I did my best to correct what I could by placing stickers on them. I understand ignorance is not an excuse, but as a first timer I was definitely an amateur at the campaign process. I respect the process. I respect the election board and election commission." To review Respondent's email, refer to Exhibit 5.

- 8. In an affidavit, the Town Clerk attested that Respondent signed and received his candidate qualifying packet on December 11, 2020. The Town Clerk completing the affidavit could not verify whether anyone from their office spoke to Respondent about provisions of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, relating to political advertising disclaimers during his 2021 campaign because she was not employed by the Town of Kenneth City at that time. To review the affidavit, refer to Exhibit 6.
- 9. According to the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*, any political advertisement that is paid for by a candidate and that is published, displayed, or circulated before, or on the day of, any election, must prominently state either, "*Political advertisement paid for and approved by (name of candidate), (party affiliation), for (office sought)" or "Paid by (name of candidate), (party affiliation), for (office sought)."* The *Handbook* further states in bold font, "Also, the disclaimer language alternatives provided above must be verbatim as quoted in Section 106.143, Florida Statutes. Variations are prohibited by law." Regarding non-incumbent advertisements, the *Handbook* states, "The word 'for' must be used in the body of such advertisement between the name of the candidate and the office sought." The *Handbook* provides visual examples of advertisements with correct verbiage and disclaimers. To review the pertinent parts of the *Handbook*, refer to Exhibit 7.
- 10. I attempted to contact Respondent on four occasions for the purpose of providing an opportunity to discuss the allegations made in the complaint. As of the date of this report, neither my telephone calls nor emails have been returned. Therefore, I am unable to ascertain whether Respondent has read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and/or the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*. To review the phone log and emails, refer to Exhibit 8.

Respectfully submitted on May 26, 2023.

Brian Ayres

Investigation Specialist

ROI (07/16) 2

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Timothy Herbert – FEC 21-156

LIST OF EXHIBITS				
Exhibits #s Description of Exhibits				
Exhibit 1	Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 9)			
Exhibit 2	Statement of Candidate (DS-DE 84)			
Exhibit 3 Acknowledgement Form				
Exhibit 4	Sign Images			
Exhibit 5	Email from Respondent			
Exhibit 6	Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook – Advertising Requirements			
Exhibit 7	Affidavit from Filing Officer			
Exhibit 8	Phone Log and Emails			

APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN DEPOSITORY FOR CANDIDATES (Section 106.021(1), F.S.)

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)	
NOTE: This form must be on file with the qualifying officer before opening the campaign account.	OFFICE USE ONLY
1. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):	
	Freasurer/Deputy Depository Office Party
2. Name of Candidate (in this order: First, Middle, Last)	3. Address (include post office box or street, city, state, zip
4. Telephone 5. E-mail address	code) 4733 585+ N
4. Telephone 5. E-mail address	Kenneth City, Fl 33709
Office sought (include district, circuit, group number)	7. If a candidate for a nonpartisan office, check if
o. Office sought (include district, circuit, group humber)	applicable:
Council Member	My intent is to run as a Write-In candidate.
8. If a candidate for a <u>partisan</u> office, check block and fil	I in name of party as applicable: My intent is to run as a
Write-In No Party Affiliation	Party candidate.
9. I have appointed the following person to act as my	Campaign Treasurer Deputy Treasurer
10. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer Sc / F) Time the	Will Herbert
17 Stailing Address	40 T-1
9/33 5846	(727) 420 2643
13. City 14. County 15. St 1Cenneth (1+4) PI	ate 16. Zip Code 17. E-mail address L 33769 Terwill 98 @ Yelus 6-
18. I have designated the following bank as my	Primary Depository Secondary Depository
19. Name of Bank Re 31645	20. Address 1900 Pajadena Souti 23. State 24. Zip Code 33707
21. City 22. County	23. State 24. Zip Code
21. City 22. County Pinel	les FC 33707
UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ TH	E FOREGOING FORM FOR APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND Y AND THAT THE FACTS STATED IN IT ARE TRUE.
25. Date	26. Signature of Candidate
12/11/2020	X FA
27. Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment	t (fill in the blanks and check the appropriate block)
1, Timothy Will Hers	, do hereby accept the appointment
designated above as: Campaign Treasure	
	To a
/ 1/1/70 X	Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer
DS-DE 9 (Pay 10(10)	Organization of Companyin Treasurer of Deputy Treasurer

STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE

(Section 106.023, F.S.)

(Please print or type)

OFFICE USE ONLY

I,	Timoth	y w Herbe	· t
candida	te for the office of	Council /	Member ;
have be	en provided access to	read and understand	the requirements of
Chapter	106, Florida Statutes.		
X	- GA		12/11/20
	Signature of Candid	ate	Date

Each candidate must file a statement with the qualifying officer within 10 days after the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository is filed. Willful failure to file this form is a first degree misdemeanor and a civil violation of the Campaign Financing Act which may result in a fine of up to \$1,000, (ss. 106.19(1)(c), 106.265(1), Florida Statutes).



TO:

TOWN OF KENNETH CITY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM 2021 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

FROM:	Cindy M. Matson, Town Clerk			
SUBJECT:	Acknowledgement of Receipt of Candidate Packet			

2021 Town of Kenneth City Election Candidates

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have received a complete copy of the Town of Kenneth City Candidate Information Packet. I understand that all election information and forms can be found at http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/ the Florida Division of Elections website.

Also, remember to take <u>any</u> paperwork that needs to be notarized to the bank when you open your account, as they will be able to notarize it for you.

Will Herbert	Will HLT
Packet is for (Print)	Signature of Person in Receipt of Packet
	12/11/20
Candidate	Date
Condy MASTS	
Cindy M. Matson, Town Clerk	









to: fec@myfloridalegal.com

Attn: Molly Donovan 07/31/2021 10:49 AM

From: "Will H" <tevwill98@yahoo.com>

To: "fec@myfloridalegal.com" < fec@myfloridalegal.com>

History: This message has been replied to.

Dear Ms. Donovan,

I, Timothy Herbert do acknowledge that the claims about my signs were true that initially I did not have correct disclaimers on them. I did my best to correct what I could by placing stickers on them. I understand ignorance is not an excuse, but as a first timer I was definitely an amateur at the campaign process. I respect the process. I respect the election board and election commission. But let me just say (and its not just sour grapes) that the people I ran against and even the town staff played dirty pool in regards to this small town election. Those folks were taking signs removing them, we were told we couldn't place signs in public right of ways, the town let some candidates place their literature in open view in city offices, and even on the town bulletin board.

As an amateur, I was happy with my campaign and I learned a lot and I also learned that it is harder than it seems. I give tons of credit for citizens that run campaigns. I'm just not sure if it is something I would pursue again.

Kind Regards, Will Herbert

AFFIDAVIT OF FILING OFFICER

STATE OF FLORIDA **County of Pinellas**

Ana Cabezas, being duly sworn, says:

1	This	affidavit	is mad	e upon	my	personal	knowled	ige.	

2. I am of legal age and competent to testify to the matters stated herein. I am currently Town of Kenneth City as Town Clerk

Please provide copies of the listed items from the following candidate's campaign file: Timothy Herbert.

Check	ITEM
/	The Statement of Candidate form for the 2021 campaign.
/	Appointments of Treasurers and Designation of Campaign Depository form (Form DS DE 9) for the 2021 campaign.
NIA	Addendum requests and proof of compliance for the 2021 campaign.
	The candidate's and campaign treasurers' acknowledgment whereby candidates and treasurers declare, under penalties of perjury, electronically filing a CTR is same as signing the report under oath, and to have certified the correctness of the report in accordance with sections 106.07(5) or 106.29(2), Florida Statutes, as applicable; such as an Application and Acknowledgement of Electronic Filing Information form (if applicable).
✓	Form(s) for all campaigns whereby candidate acknowledges receipt of instructions and/or campaign materials.
/	All checks issued by the candidate's campaign to your office (qualifying fee, maps, etc.). Please do <u>not</u> redact the bank routing and account numbers.

Please check each item provided to the candidate, and list the date that the candidate was provided the item.

Check	ITEM	DATE
	A Compilation of The Election Laws of the State of Florida	
	Chapter 104, Florida Statutes	
	Chapter 106, Florida Statutes	

Timothy Herbert Signed his candidate Qualifying Packet on 12/11/2020

	Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook. Please provide revision date of publication.
	Other: ¹
5. Relati	ive to Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and the Candidate & Campaign Treasurer ease indicate how these publications are provided to the candidate.
•	A candidate packet, or similar material, is given to the candidate. The candidate packet includes links to the Division of Elections' website, or our website, where these documents are available for review.
0	Publications are provided on a CD or thumb/flash drive that is given to the candidate.
0	Other, please explain
to the March seminars that attended for the attendance shifthe syllabus a workshow evidence 7. Does your jurisdict office(s) he reandidate with after qualifying	our office ² offer any candidate workshops, campaign skills or training seminars prior 15, 2021 election? Yes or No. If yes, please list all workshops/training were attended by the candidate, along with the date of attendance. If a staff member he candidate, list his name and position. If available, please attach a copy of any eets from the workshops/training seminars and if available, please provide a copy of and outline or PowerPoint presentation for the workshops/seminars. **Not know if the Town Clerk provided any of Said training in the Town paperwork of less.** your office have any record of Timothy Herbert having sought elective office within the prior to the 2021 election? Yes or No. If yes, please list the previous can for, the date(s) of the election(s), and the result(s) of the election(s). If the hadrew her/his candidacy for election, please indicate if the withdrawal was before or any elected office prior to 2021. **Towns fewords from the towns fewords from the towns and the result(s) of the detection(s). If the hadrew her/his candidacy for election, please indicate if the withdrawal was before or any elected office prior to 2021.

¹ Any local publications relative to the Election laws that may have been provided by your office in lieu of the *Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook* published by the Division of Elections. If your office published the item(s), please send a copy of the item(s) with the affidavit.

² If your County elections or ethics office offered candidate workshops/campaign skills or training seminars, please identify the office providing the workshops/seminars and provide copies of any notices that were sent to candidates within your jurisdiction.

8. Does your office have any record of Timothy herbert having been named as a chairpersor campaign treasurer of a political committee (PC or PAC) or electioneering communication organization (ECO) within your jurisdiction? Yes or No. If yes, please list the name(s) the committees.	ns
9. Did you or any member of your staff have any conversations with Timothy Herber concerning a provision of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, relative to Political Advertising Disclaimers, at any time during the 2021 campaign? Yes or No. If yes, please indicate whether the conversation was in person, in writing, or by telephone and the subject matter of the conversation. If applicable, please provide copies of records documenting the discussion. I was not employed by the Town at the time in function furthermore, I have not met Timothy Herberton.	ng ate
I SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS COMPLETE AN ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.	- ND
Signature of Affiant	_
Ana Cabezas	
Print or type name of Affiant on line above.	
Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this day	of
Aorilacaa, $expansion of the contraction of the$	
Del-	
Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida	
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public	
PETER LOUIS CAVALLI Notary Public - State of Florida Commission # HH 152630 My Comm. Expires Jul 12, 2025 Bonded through National Notary Assn. Personally Known or Produced Identification Type of Identification Produced:	
Case investigator: Brian Ayres	

Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook

Florida Department of State Division of Elections R. A. Gray Building, Room 316 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 850.245.6280



(Rev. 10/03/2019)

Chapter 12: Political Advertising

A political advertisement is a paid expression in a communications medium prescribed in Section 106.011(4), Florida Statutes, whether radio, television, newspaper, magazine, periodical, campaign literature, direct mail, or display or by means other than the spoken word in direct conversation, which expressly advocates the election or defeat of a candidate or the approval or rejection of an issue.

(Section <u>106.011(15)</u>, Fla. Stat.)

Candidate Disclaimers

Except as noted below, any political advertisement that is paid for by a **candidate (except a write-in candidate)** and that is published, displayed, or circulated before, or on the day of, any election <u>must prominently state</u>:

"Political advertisement paid for and approved by (name of candidate), (party affiliation), for (office sought)" or "Paid by (name of candidate), (party affiliation), for (office sought)."

Any political advertisement that is paid for by a **write-in candidate** and that is published, displayed, or circulated before, or on the day of, any election <u>must prominently state</u>:

"Political advertisement paid for and approved by (name of candidate), write-in candidate, for (office sought)" or "Paid by (name of candidate), write-in candidate, for (office sought)."

(Section 106.143(1), Fla. Stat.)

Also, the disclaimer language alternatives provided above must be verbatim as quoted in Section <u>106.143</u>, Florida Statutes. Variations are prohibited by law.

Any political advertisement of a candidate running for **partisan office** shall express the name of the political party of which the candidate is seeking nomination or is the nominee.

If the candidate for partisan office is running as a candidate with no party affiliation, any advertisement of the candidate must state that the candidate has no party affiliation. A candidate who is registered in a political party may run as a candidate with "no party affiliation" without changing their registration.

The candidate shall provide a <u>written statement of authorization</u> to the newspaper, radio station, television station, or other medium for each advertisement submitted for publication, display, broadcast, or other distribution.

Candidates running for **non-partisan** office may not state the candidate's political party affiliation in the disclaimer, or in the body of the advertisement. *Exception*: The candidate is not prohibited from stating the candidate's partisan-related experience.

(Sections <u>106.143(3)</u> and (5), Fla. Stat.)

Note: A candidate running for an office that has a district, group, or seat number does <u>not</u> have to indicate the district, group, or seat number in the political advertisement or disclaimer.

Exceptions to Disclaimer Requirements

The disclaimer requirements in Section $\underline{106.143}$, Florida Statutes, do not apply to any campaign message or political advertisement used by a candidate and the candidate's supporters or by a political committee \underline{if} the message or advertisement is:

- Designed to be worn by a person.
- Placed as a paid link on an Internet website provided the message or advertisement is no more than 200 characters in length and the link directs the user to another Internet website that complies with the disclaimer requirements in Section 106.143(1), Florida Statutes.
- Placed as a graphic or picture link where compliance with the requirements of Section 106.143, Florida Statutes, is not reasonably practical due to the size of the graphic or picture link and the link directs the user to another Internet website that complies with Section 106.143(1), Florida Statutes.
- Placed at no cost on an Internet website for which there is no cost to post content for public users.
- Placed or distributed on an unpaid profile or account which is available to the public
 without charge or on a social networking Internet website, as long as the source of
 the message or advertisement is patently clear from the content or format of the
 message or advertisement. A candidate or political committee may prominently
 display a statement indicating that the website or account is an official website or
 account of the candidate or political committee and is approved by the candidate or
 political committee. A website or account may not be marked as official without prior
 approval by the candidate or political committee.
- Distributed as a text message or other message via Short Message Service, provided the message is no more than 200 characters in length or requires the recipient to sign up or opt in to receive it.

- Connected with or included in any software application or accompanying function, provided that the user signs up, opts in, downloads, or otherwise accesses the application from or through a website that complies with Section <u>106.143(1)</u>, Florida Statutes.
- Sent by a third-party user from or through a campaign or committee's website, provided the website complies with Section 106.143(1), Florida Statutes.
- Contained in or distributed through any other technology-related item, service, or device for which compliance with Section <u>106.143(1)</u>, Florida Statutes, is not reasonably practical due to the size or nature of such item, service, or device as available, or the means of displaying the message or advertisement makes compliance with Section <u>106.143(1)</u>, Florida Statutes, impracticable.

(Section 106.143(10), Fla. Stat.)

Disclaimer requirements do not apply to individuals seeking a publicly elected position on a political party executive committee.

Examples of Advertisements with Disclaimers

Note: The word "elect" or "re-elect" is <u>not</u> required to be used in political advertisements. The word "re-elect" may <u>not</u> be used if the candidate is not the incumbent for the office sought.

1. Non-incumbent, partisan candidate running for partisan office:

ELECT JANE DOE For State Representative District 9

Paid by Jane Doe, Rep., for State Representative

ELECT JANE DOE For State Representative District 9

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Jane Doe, Republican, for State Representative

2. Incumbent, partisan candidate running for partisan office:

OR

RE-ELECT JOHN DOE Sheriff

Political advertisement paid for and approved by John Doe, Democrat, for Sheriff

RE-ELECT John Doe Sheriff

Paid by John Doe, Democrat, for Sheriff

OR

OR

OR

OR

3. Non-incumbent, no party affiliation candidate running for partisan office:

ELECT John Doe For State Senate

Political advertisement paid for and approved by John Doe, NPA, for State Senate

ELECT Joe Doe For State Senate

Paid by John Doe, No Party Affiliation, for State Senate

4. Non-incumbent candidate running for nonpartisan office:



Political advertisement paid for and approved by John Doe for School Board



Paid by John Doe for School Board

5. Incumbent candidate running for nonpartisan office:



Political advertisement paid for and approved by Jane Doe for School Board

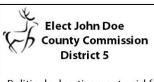


Paid by Jane Doe for School Board

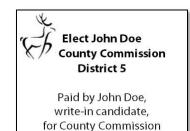
Disclaimer for Write-in Candidates

Any political advertisement that is paid for by a write-in candidate and that is published, or circulated before, or on the day of, any election **must prominently state:** "Political advertisement paid for and approved by (name of candidate), write-in candidate, for (office sought)" **OR** "Paid by (name of candidate), write-in candidate, for (office sought)."

Example:



Political advertisement paid for and approved by John Doe, write-in candidate, for County Commission



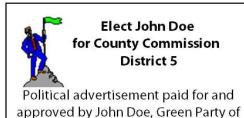
OR

Non-incumbent Advertisements

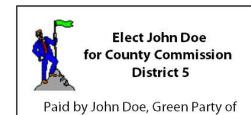
Required:

The word "for" must be used in the body of such advertisement between the name of the candidate and the office sought. This does not apply to bumper stickers, or if the advertisement satisfies one of the exceptions in Section 106.143(10), Florida Statutes.

Example:



Florida, for County Commission



Florida, for County Commission

OR

Advertisement Provided In-kind

Required:

Political advertisements made as in-kind contributions from a political party **must prominently state**: "Paid political advertisement paid for by in-kind by (name of political party). Approved by (name of person, party affiliation, and office sought in the political advertisement)."

(Section 106.143(2), Fla. Stat.)

Example:



FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG

Case No.: FEC 21-156

Respondent: Timothy Herbert Complainant: Kyle Cummings

1. **Date and time:** August 25, 2022 @ 3:07

Name: Timothy Herbert **Phone** #: 727-420-2643

Summary: I called but had to leave a voicemail with the number. I have emailed

Respondent but to this point there has been no response.

Entered by: Brian Ayres

2. **Date and time:** August 26, 2022 @ 2:45pm

Name: Timothy Herbert Phone #: 727-420-2643

Summary: I called Respondent. It went to voicemail. At this time all of my emails and

phone calls have not been responded to.

Entered by:

3. **Date and time:**

Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:

RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at #[LOG NUMBER]

- Did you pay for or approve another entity to produce and distribute the campaign advertisement signs outlined in the complaint?
- Were you aware campaign signs need the word "for" between your name and the office you are running for during your 2021 campaign for town council?
- Were you aware your 2021 campaign signs needed a political disclaimer explaining who paid for and approved the yard sign?
- How were the yard signs produced?
 - Which vendor, if any, did you use for the campaign yard signs? Do you have a receipt of payment for the yard signs?
- Have you ever run for public office? If so, please name each office you ran for and state what year each election occurred.

- Have you ever been appointed to act as a campaign treasurer for a candidate? If so, please
 name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election
 occurred.
- Have you ever held the office of chairperson, treasurer, or other similar position for a political committee or electioneering communications organization? If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.
- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.
- What action have you taken to determine your responsibilities under Florida's election laws?
- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Do you possess a copy of the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Did you receive any other materials from your filing officer? If so, please describe them
- Do you have anything else to add for the Commission's consideration regarding the charges specified in the letter of legal sufficiency in this case?

Brian Ayres

From: Brian Ayres

Sent: Friday, August 26, 2022 3:19 PM

To: tevwill98@yahoo.com

Subject: RE: Florida Elections Commission FEC 21-156

Good Afternoon Mr. Herbert,

I have attempted to contact you regarding this matter multiple times. I have not been successful. I would like to reach out to you and inform you I am moving on with my investigation and should be concluding my report soon. Please feel free to reach out to the office or my email to schedule a time in which we can speak with each other about this matter.

Respectfully,

Brian Ayres

Investigation Specialist Florida Elections Commission 107 W Gaines St., #224 (850) 404-5616 Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com

From: Brian Ayres

Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 11:28 AM

To: tevwill98@yahoo.com

Subject: Florida Elections Commission FEC 21-156

Importance: High

Good Morning Mr. Herbert,

As you know, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint about your 2021 campaign regarding whether political disclaimers on your campaign signs were used as well as whether or not you used the proper political advertising language on those signs. I wanted to reach out to you and see if there was a time I can speak to you about this case in particular. Anytime will work for me this week (August 22 – 26) but please let me know what is best for you.

I look forward to speaking with you,

Brian Ayres

Investigation Specialist Florida Elections Commission 107 W Gaines St., #224 (850) 404-5616 Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com



Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6596 Telephone: (850) 922-4539 · Facsimile: (850) 921-0783 FEC@myfloridalegal.com · www.fec.state.fl.us



July 6, 2022

Timothy Herbert 4733 58th St N. Kenneth City, FL 33709

RE: Case No.: FEC 21-156; Respondent: Timothy Herbert

Dear Mr. Herbert:

On February 26, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging you violated Florida's election laws. I have reviewed the complaint and find that it contains one or more **legally sufficient allegations**. The Commission staff will investigate the following alleged violation(s):

Section 106.143(1)(a), Florida Statutes: Respondent, a 2021 candidate for the Town of Kenneth City Councilmember, may have paid for and distributed political advertisements that contained express advocacy but did not include a proper disclaimer, as alleged in the complaint.

Section 106.143(6), Florida Statutes: Respondent, a 2021 candidate for the Town of Kenneth City Councilmember, may have improperly failed to use the word "for" between his name and the office for which he was running, in political advertisements, as alleged in the complaint. Respondent was not incumbent.

However, prior to an investigation, you have the option to <u>resolve your case now by</u> signing a minor violation consent order and <u>paying a fine of \$350</u>, per Rule 2B-1.003, Florida Administrative Code, <u>rather than the potential \$1,000 per violation</u> provided for in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes.

If you sign the consent order, you would not be required to admit or deny the allegation(s) in the complaint, but you would be required to immediately correct the violation, if feasible.

The signed consent order would then be considered by the Commission at its next available meeting and would constitute final action by the Commission once it is accepted and approved by the Commission. You and the Complainant will receive notice at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

Timothy Herbert July 6, 2022 Page 2 FEC 21-156

<u>Please contact Mattie Clay by phone at (850) 922-4539, by email at Mattie.Clay@myfloridalegal.com</u>, or at the address listed above, to accept this minor violation consent order.

If you choose not to resolve this case by consent order, an investigation will be conducted, the Commission will hold one or more hearings to determine whether the alleged violation(s) occurred and, if so, the amount of fine to be imposed upon you.

Please note that all documents related to this matter will be mailed to the above address unless you notify us of a new address.

For additional information, please refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions" section on the Commission's website.

Sincerely

Tim Vaccaro
Executive Director

TV/mw

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION 107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

COMPLAINT

The Commission's records and proceedings in a case are confidential until the Commission rules on probable cause. A copy of the complaint will be provided to the person against whom it is brought.

1.	PERSON BRINGING COMPLAINT:
	Name: Kyle L Cummings Work Phone: (_)
	Address: 5193 Lake Charles Dr N Home Phone: ()
	City: Kenneth City County: Pinellas State: FL Zip Code: 33709
2.	PERSON AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINT IS BROUGHT:
	If you intend to name more than one individual or entity, please file multiple complaints. A personal be an individual, political committee, political party, electioneering communication organization, club, corporation, partnership, company, association, or other type of organization.
	Name of individual or entity: Timothy Herbert
	Address: 4733 58 St N Phone: ()
	City: Kenneth City County: Pinellas State: FL Zip Code: 33709
	If individual is a candidate, list the office or position sought:
	Have you filed this complaint with the State Attorney's Office? (check one)
	Are you alleging a violation of Section 104.271(2), F.S.? (check one) Yes No
	Are you alleging a violation of Section 104.2715, F.S.? (check one) Yes No
3.	ALLEGED VIOLATION(S):
	Please attach a <u>concise</u> narrative statement in which you list the provisions of the Florida Election Code that you believe the person named above may have violated. The Commission has jurisdiction only to investigate provisions of Chapter 104 and Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. <u>Please include the</u>

- The facts and actions that you believe support the violations you allege;
- The names/telephone numbers of persons whom you believe may be witnesses to the facts;
- A copy or picture of any political advertisement(s) you mention in your statement;
- A copy of each document you mention in your statement;
- An explanation of why you believe information you reference from websites is relevant; and
- Any other evidence supporting your allegations.

following items as part of your attached statement:

SEE REVERSE SIDE OF DOCUMENT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any person who files a complaint while <u>knowing</u> that the allegations are false or without merit commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in Sections 775.082 and 775.083, Florida Statutes.

FEC Form 1 (5/17) Rules 2B-1.0025 & 2B-1.009, F.A.C.

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION 107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

4. OATH:

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Pinellas

I swear or affirm that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Original Signature of Person Bringing Complaint

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17 day of 20 21
Darcy Deaca
Signature of Officer Authorized to Administer Oaths or Notary Public
NANCY JEAN DEACON Notary Public – State of Florida Commission ± GG *72093 My Comm. Expires Jar 2 2022 Bonced through National Notary Assin
(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public) Personally Known Or Produced Identification Type of Identification Produced

5. IMPROPERLY COMPLETED COMPLAINT FORMS MAY BE RETURNED:

- You MUST submit this completed complaint form in order to file a complaint.
- You MUST complete ALL FOUR of the above sections of this form. DO NOT leave any blanks.
- You **MUST** submit the **ORIGINAL** complaint form. Copied/faxed/emailed forms are returned.
- Each complaint can only be filed against **ONE PERSON** or **ENTITY.** If you wish to file against multiple parties, you **MUST** submit a complaint form **for each party** you wish to file against.
- DO NOT submit multiple complaint forms with one set of attachments applying to multiple complaints. You MUST attach copies of attachments to each complaint to which they apply.
- MAKE SURE the alleged violation(s) of Chapters 104 or 106 occurred within the last 2 years.
- MAKE SURE your complaint is sworn and there is no defect to the notarization in Section 4.

Timothy Herbert, candidate for Council Member in the Town of Kenneth City in the upcoming March 9, 2021 Town election, has been placing many campaign election signs(photographs included) throughout the Town of Kenneth City in February 2021. They are a clear violation of 2020 Florida Statue 106.143 as it does <u>not</u> have the required disclaimer "Political advertisement paid for and approved by (name of candidate), (party affiliation), for (office sought)".

These rules and requirements were given to each candidate in their election packet by the Kenneth City Town Clerk. These rules exist for a specific reason and to maintain the integrity of candidate campaigns and therefore need to be followed. It is my hope the Florida Elections Commission will investigate, enforce these state statues and set forth any penalty necessary.

Sincerely

Kyle Cummings

Kyle L









Kyte Cammings Dr N 5193 Lake Charles Dr N Kenneth City FL 33709

RECEIVED

7021 FEB 26 P 2: 49

COMMISSION

The Florida Elections Commission 107 West Games Street Suite 224, Collins Building Tallahassee, PL 32399-1050.

իրիկներիկնիրիկիս ուսներիկներիներինի