

Andrea Gyger

From: David K. Williams Jr [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2011 10:25 AM
To: Andrea Gyger
Subject: Rules Concerning Campaign and Political Finance, 8 CCR 1505-6

Mr. Secretary,

I represent the Libertarian Party of Colorado and the Gadsden Society of Colorado.

Both organizations support the goal behind the proposed rule changes. As the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals held in Sampson v. Buescher,

There is virtually no proper governmental interest in imposing disclosure requirements on ballot-initiative committees that raise and expend so little money, and that limited interest cannot justify the burden that those requirements impose on such a committee.

All reporting requirements discourage the exercise of First Amendment rights, but requirements that impose substantial penalty for failure to properly report small amounts of money virtually quell them. Participation in the political process should be encouraged, and not made more difficult by rules and regulations wherein prudence dictates the hiring of an attorney. Very few individuals can afford to hire an attorney in such a case. They certainly do not wish to incur substantial financial penalty for merely expressing their opinion on a political matter.

Sincerely,

David K. Williams, Jr.