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Digitally signed
 by Kathryn Ross
 Date:
 2018.10.16
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Kathryn Ross

October 16, 2018

BY EMAIL

Ms. Lisa J. Stevenson
 Acting General Counsel
 Federal Election Commission
 1050 First Street, NE
 Washington, DC 20463

Re: MUR 7488 - Response of Friends of Tracy Mitrano Committee and Kris Hodges, in her capacity as Treasurer

Dear Ms. Stevenson:

This response is submitted on behalf of the Friends of Tracy Mitrano Committee and Kris Hodges, in her official capacity as Treasurer (the "Committee"), in response to the Commission's letter dated August 30, 2018, notifying the Committee of a complaint filed by Mr. Rodney J. Strange, designated by the Commission as MUR 7488.¹

Mr. Strange is correct that the Committee has occupied office space at 5 East Market Street in Corning, New York, since the beginning of June 2018. Mr. Strange is also correct that this office space is located in a building owned by Centerway Commerce Building, LLC ("Centerway"). However, the accuracy of Mr. Strange's assertions stop there.

The accurate facts are simple:

- Centerway is charging the Committee a monthly rent of \$750, which represents fair market rate for the office space.

¹ This response is filed timely pursuant to an extension granted by Commission staff.

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- Centerway and the Committee agreed that the Committee would not pay rent in June and that the \$750 value for June 2018 rent would be treated as an in-kind contribution to Committee.²
- The Committee paid \$750 monthly rent for each month subsequent to June 2018.³

Based on the *facts* described above, and pursuant to 52 U.S.C. § 30109, this matter should be dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brad Deutsch
*Counsel to the Friends of Tracy Mitrano
Committee*

GSB:9717918.1

² Centerway informed the Committee (1) that it files with the Internal Revenue Service as a partnership, (2) that Mr. George Welch and Ms. Elizabeth Welch are Centerway's only two members, and (3) that the \$750 in-kind contribution from Centerway should be attributed equally between Mr. and Ms. Welch (*i.e.*, \$375 each). See 11 CFR § 110.1(g)(2), (5); *see also* 110.1(e). The Committee notes that this in-kind contribution was inadvertently omitted from the Committee's original July Quarterly report on FEC Form 3 but that an amended report reflecting the contribution has now been filed.

³ The office rent expenditures for July, August and September are reflected on the Committee's October Quarterly report on FEC Form 3. Expenditures for October and any future rent will be properly reflected on future reports.