

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Molly C. Braswell

MAY 1 6 2019

New York, NY 10009

RE:

**MUR 7499** 

Molly C. Braswell

Dear Ms. Braswell:

On October 31, 2018, the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") notified you of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"). On May 1, 2019, based upon the information contained in the complaint and information provided by you, the Commission decided to dismiss allegations that you violated provisions of the Act. The Commission then closed its file in this matter. A copy of the General Counsel's Report, which more fully explains the basis for the Commission's decision, is enclosed.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003) and Statement of Policy Regarding Placing First General Counsel's Reports on the Public Record, 74 Fed. Reg. 66132 (Dec. 14, 2009). If you have any questions, please contact Don Campbell, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Stevenson

Acting General Counsel

BY:

Jeff S. Jordan

Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure:

General Counsel's Report

## BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

## ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM DISMISSAL REPORT

MUR: 7529 Respondent: Molly C. Braswell

Complaint Receipt Date: October 29, 2018

Response Date: February 22, 2019

Alleged Statutory Regulatory Violations: 52 U.S.C. § 30114(b); 11 C.F.R. § 113.1(g)

The Complainant, Eliot Rabin, alleges that Braswell, his committee's former campaign manager, withdrew \$40 in cash from the campaign's account and used about \$10 more of campaign funds to buy lipstick for herself.<sup>1</sup> Respondent denies the allegations.<sup>2</sup>

Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating and the low dollar amount, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint consistent with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of

Compl. at 1 (August 27, 2018). Rabin was a candidate for U.S. House in New York's 12th Congressional District, and lost in the November 6, 2018, general election with 12.1% of the vote.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Resp. at 1 (February 22, 2019).

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agency resources.<sup>3</sup> We also recommend that the Commission close the file and send the appropriate letters.

Lisa J. Stevenson Acting General Counsel

Charles Kitcher
Acting Associate General Counsel

5/1/19

Date

BY:

Stephen Gura

Deputy Associate General Counsel

Jeff S. Jordan

Assistant General Counsel

Donald E. Campbell

Attorney

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Heckler v. Chaney, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985).