

Edward T. Ramey Direct Dial: 303-376-3712 eramey@hpfirm.com

August 11, 2014

Mr. Tim Neville Neville for Colorado 6344 South Chase Street Littleton, CO 80213

Re: Campaign contribution solicitations and reports

Dear Mr. Neville:

I am writing to you on behalf of Christopher O'Dell, a registered elector and former chair of the Jefferson County Republican Party.

We have recently noted that your candidate committee, Neville for Colorado, has paid for and authorized a fundraising website through fundly.com – <a href="https://fundly.com/donate/ApBNPu2jBI">https://fundly.com/donate/ApBNPu2jBI</a>. This website invites supporters of your candidacy for the Colorado Senate District 16 seat to make contributions to your campaign.

Of preliminary concern to us is the fact that your website explicitly and prominently solicits donors to "contribute anonymously" to your campaign — and by way of "recurring monthly donation" in apparently unlimited amounts. As you are aware, it is illegal for Colorado candidates to keep or use anonymous contributions in amounts of \$20 or more; rather, candidates are required to turn any such funds over to the State Treasurer or donate them to a charity within 30 days after receipt. Please see the Secretary of State's campaign finance Rule 10.6.1.

Of greater concern is the notation in the fundraising "goal" box in the upper left corner of your fundly.com website that you have in fact raised \$400 in "Anonymous" donations – accompanied incidentally by notations that you have received contributions in the amounts of \$750, \$550, and \$500 (from Dolores Kopp, Craig Nardi, and John Sterling respectively), all in excess of the \$400 aggregate contribution limit for Colorado Senate races. In fact, viewing the individual contributions listed on your fundly.com website, it appears that you have accepted over \$1500 in anonymous contributions in amounts of \$20 or more through that service.

Turning to the Reports of Contributions and Expenditures you have filed with the Colorado Secretary of State, we've become even more perplexed by what appears to be an absence of any

indication that your campaign ever received – let alone remitted to the State Treasurer or to a charity – virtually any of the "anonymous" contributions reflected on the fundly.com website. Thus we have no idea if this money (together with some of the other balance discrepancies for reported donors between the fundly.com website and your campaign finance reports) was retained, used for your campaign purposes, simply pocketed, or used somewhere else. Nor do we have any idea why these contributions do not appear to have been included anywhere in your mandatory reports to the Secretary of State. [Unlike incomplete line items such as the \$404.09 in "non-itemized" fundraising expenses from your April 15, 2013 report, this information appears to have been omitted altogether.]

We do not understand why a Colorado candidate would affirmatively solicit anonymous contributions in the first place – knowing that it would be illegal to use these donations for the purpose for which they were being explicitly solicited. Nor do we understand why your fundly.com website contains inaccurate and inapplicable information at the bottom regarding federal, rather than state, campaign finance reporting requirements.

As the matters noted above appear so completely at odds with Colorado law and normal campaign practices, we are, by this letter, requesting a full explanation of the points raised. We would certainly want to share your responses with the Secretary of State and with the public. Our only other recourse would be to attempt to sort all this out through initiation of a formal campaign finance complaint with the Secretary of State and the Office of Administrative Courts. As the points we are raising appear on their face to be so completely aberrant and contrary to law, we are hoping you will be able to help us understand if and where we are in error regarding each of the points discussed.

Thank you for your courtesy with regard to this matter. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely.

Edward T. Ramey