

Addendum of Violated City Code Provisions: BOE 03-2025

Complainant: Stephanie W. Telles, Candidate for Albuquerque City Council, District 1

Respondent: Scott Forrester, Campaign Manager for City Council Candidate Ahren Griego

Pursuant to Section 5(A)(3)(g) of the Rules of the Board of Ethics and Campaign Practices, I respectfully submit this addendum to specify the City Code provisions I believe in good faith were violated by the conduct described in my complaint.

1. Open and Ethical Elections Code: Part 6: Coordinated Expenditures

Under Part 6, an expenditure is presumed to be a “coordinated expenditure” when made in cooperation or consultation with a candidate or their agent, especially when intended to influence a candidate’s campaign decisions.

“An expenditure is a ‘Coordinated Expenditure’ and shall constitute a contribution to the candidate when... the expenditure is made in cooperation, consultation, or in concert with... the candidate.” (Part 6.A-B)

The offer made by the campaign manager of an opposing candidate to help retire my campaign debt in exchange for withdrawing a lawful challenge constitutes a coordinated activity intended to alter electoral behavior. This was neither disclosed nor reported as required under the City’s campaign finance rules and appears to be a violation of both the spirit and substance of Part 6.

2. Rules of the Board of Ethics and Campaign Practices: Section 5(A)(3)(g)

The conduct alleged also constitutes a violation of the City’s ethical standards for campaign conduct. Even without explicit criminal charges, offering something of value to alter the outcome of a nomination process is inherently unethical and improper under the Board’s rules and mission.

“A complaint shall include... the section(s) or part(s) of the Codes or Rules of the Board that Complainant believes in good faith to have been violated.” (Sec. 5(A)(3)(g))

My original complaint narrative and supporting timeline clearly show good-faith allegations of unethical influence on the candidate qualification process.

3. General Ethical Conduct: City Charter Articles XIII & XVI

The City’s Election Code and Open and Ethical Elections Code prohibit acts that undermine transparency, fairness, or public confidence in the electoral process. The allegations are contrary to the ethical standards established by the Charter.

I submit this addendum in good faith and respectfully request the Board of Ethics to accept my complaint as facially sufficient and proceed with a full review.