

October 7, 2024

William C. Campbell
Director, OCPF
One Ashburton Place, Room 411
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Request for Review

Dear Mr. Campbell:

On behalf of Massachusetts for Mental Health Options, I am requesting review of a potential violation of the Massachusetts Campaign Finance Law reporting.

The organization Coalition for Safe Communities reported taking in no money and having no expenditures from May 1, 2024 – September 1, 2024¹. During that time, the organization maintained a spokesperson² who happened to simultaneously hold that role for Committee to Protect Tips, which is working on Question 5³. In its filing for that same May 1- September 1 period, Committee to Protect Tips reported two payments totaling \$125,000 to the spokesperson's employer, Shawmut Strategies Group⁴.

Further, that same spokesperson was quoted in a May 2, 2024 *State House News Service* story noting that the organization was "now preparing to begin fundraising."⁵ However, nearly five months later, in a September 25, 2024 story, also from *State House News Service*, they communicated the organization "has not conducted any fundraising or spending."⁶ In that same story, the spokesperson indicated that they expect payment for their work on behalf of the campaign "if money begins flowing."

The absence of reported financials, coupled with the spokesperson's own words, raises concerns that this is maneuvering to obscure the source of funds until after November 5th. Transparency is paramount to election integrity and a cursory glance at the facts suggests information may be being withheld.

Respectfully,



Danielle L. McCourt
Chair, Massachusetts for Mental Health Options

¹ <https://ocpf.us/Reports/DisplayReport?menuHidden=true&id=942593>

² <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2024/05/03/metro/committee-forms-oppose-psychedelics-push/>

³ https://www.statehousenews.com/news/politics/campaignfinance/opposition-launches-ad-in-tipped-worker-battle/article_ae7fdb36-6bb3-11ef-9d09-5ba2a317d8b9.html

⁴ <https://ocpf.us/Reports/DisplayReport?menuHidden=true&id=942581>

⁵ https://www.statehousenews.com/news/politics/committee-forms-to-oppose-psychedelics-push/article_633d01e8-08b8-11ef-ae67-7307e5761bfc.html

⁶ https://www.statehousenews.com/news/politics/elections/voter-law-campaigns-finding-path-to-ballot-unobstructed/article_95ca34be-7b59-11ef-ae75-03ff51fcf0b7.html