

Jason Bailey
Citizens for NO New Debt
Red ink is my reply
July 14, 2025

I respectfully motion to dismiss this complaint due to missed deadlines by the Division and because the complaint is riddled with inaccuracies.

STATE OF COLORADO
SECRETARY OF STATE
1700 BROADWAY #550
DENVER, COLORADO 80290

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF STATE, COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

AHO Case No. _____
ED Case No. 2024-107

In the Matter of
ELECTIONS DIVISION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
Complainant,
vs.
CITIZENS FOR NO NEW DEBT,
Respondent.

COMPLAINT

Pursuant to § 1-45-111.7, C.R.S. (2024), the Elections Division of the Secretary of State files this complaint against Citizens for No New Debt (“Respondent” or the “Committee”).

BACKGROUND

1. To assist voters in evaluating the sources of election-related spending, Colorado law requires entities with “a major purpose” of supporting or opposing any ballot issue, and that spend or receive more than \$200 to support or oppose any ballot issue, to register with the Secretary of State and disclose their contributions and expenditures.

Citizens for NO New Debt is not a major purpose to support or oppose ballot issues as I have stated numerous times in emails and phone calls to Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott. I formed this

organization before I ever had any idea of opposing Denver Public Schools debt, before this DPS debt ballot issue was ever created by DPS in the first place. For some reason, Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott have been determined from the beginning to tell me what my life's purpose is and what my organization's purpose is – this is completely unacceptable for them to tell me the purpose of my life.

2. For the same reason, Colorado law also requires entities advocating for or against ballot issues to include “paid for by” disclaimers in those communications. Those disclaimers must identify the person paying for the communication and, if the person is a non-natural person, the disclaimer must also identify the person's registered agent.

I have always been working to follow the laws and I have never tried to hide or deceive anyone on this. Jim Scott pointed this out as well in his settlement agreement, paragraph I, “Nothing in the Division's investigation suggested an intent to mislead the Division or the electorate.” I wish I could say the same about the Division, but I can't. The Division has been creating misleading attorney nonsense over and over again.

3. Here, Citizens for No New Debt had a major purpose of opposing Denver Ballot Issue 4A, a non-statewide ballot measure that was submitted to voters in Denver in November 2024. Despite spending more than \$8,000 on advertisements opposing Issue 4A, Respondent did not register as an issue committee or disclose its contributions and expenditures.

What does “here” mean? Attorney nonsense regardless of actual reality?

NO, we do not, have not, and will not, have a major purpose of supporting or opposing ballot issues. Myra with the Colorado Secretary of State office twice told me (two separate phone calls to Myra) that I do not need to register an issue committee but rather to file the “48-hour” expenditure report – which I did the day after running the Denver Post insert. Myra seems to be the only honest person in the office.

4. Respondent's advertisements also failed to identify Respondent's registered agent in their “paid for by” disclaimers.

I had disclaimers on my ads. I did, inadvertently not have my registered agent name on the digital ads. I did, however, have my registered agent name on the majority of the advertising, which was the printed insert into the Denver Post, \$4,940 (\$4,100 to print and \$840 to insert) of the approximately \$8,000 spent. I mentioned this to Jim Scott on the phone and I said that I would be glad to drop off printed copies to show him, he said “well we have so much security here.” Jim's comment was

obviously to scare me rather than to discover the reality of the disclaimer pertaining to the majority of the advertising expense.

5. Accordingly, the Elections Division brings this action for appropriate relief.

PARTIES

6. Complainant is the Elections Division (“Division”) of the Colorado Secretary of State.

7. Respondent is the Citizens for No New Debt, a nonprofit corporation registered with the Secretary of State’s business and licensing division, ID # 20241216280.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

8. The Division has jurisdiction under § 1-45-111.7.

9. The Division files this complaint with a hearing officer consistent with § 1-45-111.7(5)(a)(IV).

10. This complaint is timely filed within thirty days of the Division’s May 16, 2025, Notice of Investigation, according to § 1-45-111.7(5)(a)(IV).

Not true, June 16 is 31 days after May 16.

I respectfully motion to dismiss this complaint due to missed deadlines by the Division and because the complaint is riddled with inaccuracies.

11. Venue is proper before the hearing officer under § 1-45-111.7(5).

ALLEGATIONS

12. In 2024, ballot issue 4A was submitted to voters in Denver. The ballot measure would have authorized the issuance of new debt to support capital improvements for the Denver Public Schools. Ballot issue 4A was a non-statewide ballot measure.

The Colorado S.O.S. should not be involved in political matters supporting or opposing ballot issues, but this statement is clearly political, “to support capital improvements for the Denver Public Schools.” Considering that it’s impossible to pay off debt without twice as much money, on average,

debt does the exact opposite of supporting improvement, maintenance, teacher pay, or anything else for public education. Every dollar Carrie Olson gives to Chase bank, Goldman Sachs, Barclays, or any other bank will never buy so much as a single pencil for DPS. Government debt is a counter-productive waste of valuable money.

13. Ballot issue 4A was referred to the voters by the Denver Public Schools Board of Education on August 15, 2024.

My organization was formed in January and February of 2024, after planning and thought throughout 2023, without a single intention of supporting or opposing DPS debt. My organization is the same organization as when I initially formed it; to write and communicate about government debt.

14. Earlier that year, on February 23, 2024, J. Robert Bailey filed Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State's business and licensing division, forming Citizens for No New Debt. According to the Articles, Respondent's mission is to "improve government budgets by providing training, education, and communications that government debt is a waste of money."

Exactly.

15. Between October 13, 2024, and October 31, 2024, Citizens for No New Debt distributed several advertisements in opposition to Ballot Issue 4A.

16. These included digital advertisements in the Denver Post's online newsletter, "The Spot," an insert in the October 13, 2024, Sunday edition of the Denver Post, advertisements with Colorado Community Media, and a Facebook boost.

17. In total, Citizens for No New Debt spent \$8,031.21 on communications opposing Ballot Issue 4A. On October 14, 2024, "Citizens for NO new debt and Jason Bailey" filed a 48-hour disclosure of direct ballot issue or ballot question expenditure report, disclosing \$7,400 worth of expenditures in opposition to 4A.

Exactly as the law requires.

We did exactly what Myra instructed for us to do. Myra is the person who is actually trying to help people, unlike the attorneys who are just trying to dominate and win the case no matter what.

18. On November 5, 2024, the Division received a campaign finance complaint against Citizens for No New Debt. The complaint was filed by Dr. Carrie Olson. The Olson

complaint alleged that Citizens for No New Debt was running advertisements opposed to Ballot Issue 4A but had not registered as an issue committee or disclosed its contributions.

Would you please email me a copy of Carrie Olson's complaint from November 5, 2024, I don't have a copy of that. I question the accuracy of paragraph 18 on this complaint.

Also, Carrie Olson is a government official. This complaint is NOT a citizen's complaint rather it's two layers of government working together in order to step on grass-roots democracy. No citizen had one problem with my life's work.

19. The Olson complaint also alleged that the "paid for by" disclaimer on Respondent's advertisements did not identify Citizens for No New Debt's registered agent.

The attorneys just continue to mislead, "advertisements" is a plural word. Carrie Olson had one complaint on one advertisement (NOT plural). A \$300 ad. I told Jim Scott on the phone that I would agree to a 10% fine on this \$300 ad to end this nightmare, but he rejected the offer. Apparently, he just wants to keep this ridiculous waste of time and energy moving right along. Apparently he needs something to do.

20. The Olson complaint included an image of one of Respondent's advertisements in the Denver Post's "The Spot" newsletter.

OH my god, throw me in prison. No "registered agent" on this ad. By the way, the Denver Post designed this \$300 ad, not me.

21. During its review and investigation of the Olson complaint, the Division corresponded with Respondent through its Registered Agent, Jason Robert Bailey.

22. Bailey provided documents showing the extent of the Committee's operations, and its advocacy related to Ballot Issue 4A.

In November I emailed every transaction my organization has had from the beginning to Jim Scott the day after he asked for such. At that time, this nightmare should have been dismissed for being too small and irrelevant to waste enormous amounts of time and money to hunt down Jason Bailey with endless emails, phone calls, and harassment, going on 9 months now.

23. Based on its review and investigation, the Division concluded that although Citizens for No New Debt was not exclusively established to oppose any ballot issue or ballot measure, it had "a major purpose" of supporting or opposing any ballot issue or ballot

measure.

The Division can conclude anything it wants. If you conclude that 10 minus 5 equals 10, you'll be right in line with most conclusions pertaining to government debt. "Not exclusively established" is such the straw argument to present "a major purpose" as a conclusion as to why I formed my organization. Total fiction. Timothy Gebhardt, Jim Scott, I don't tell you what your purpose in life is and you should stop lying about my purpose in life.

24. It reached this conclusion based on the factors outlined in *Cerbo v. Protect Colorado Jobs*, 240 P.3d 495, 501-02 (Colo. App. 2010).¹

25. Specifically, the \$8,031.21 Respondent spent on advertisements opposed to Ballot Issue 4A represented virtually all the organization's spending in 2024.

26. Moreover, a significant number of the organization's publications related to opposing Ballot Issue 4A.

My organizational spending is bigger than my campaign spending. For example, I paid \$800 month for 12 months from my personal checking account for my office at 1410 Grant St. I have spent over \$5,000 in tech training and I pay with a personal credit card

Furthermore, you have a sample size of 1 when comparing my campaign spending to my organizational spending. This is like saying, right after buying that first cup of coffee in the morning, -- coffee represents "virtually all" of your spending. This logic is completely skewed. The time-frame and sample size you present is 1, and a time-frame and sample size of 1 is too small to be relevant. I remember from college stats class that generally 30 is the smallest sample size to be relevant. So check back way into the future if you care to be accurate (but you don't).

COLORADO CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW

27. Under Colorado law, all issue committees must "register with the appropriate officer within ten calendar days of accepting or making contributions or expenditures in excess of two hundred dollars to support or oppose any ballot issue or ballot question." § 1-45-108(3.3), C.R.S. (2024).

We're not an issue committee. By the way, my fist meeting with Denver Elections, Nick Mahon, Denver's compliance attorney, said, quote, "looks like an i.e., since you're doing much more than just elections."

28. Issue committees must also report to the appropriate officer their “contributions received, including the name and address of each person who has contributed twenty dollars or more; expenditures made, and obligations entered into.” § 1-45-108(1)(a)(I), C.R.S. (2024).

We’re not an issue committee. By the way, my fist meeting with Denver Elections, Nick Mahon, Denver’s compliance attorney, said, quote, “looks like an i.e., since you’re doing much more than just elections.”

29. An issue committee is “any person, other than a natural person,” that has “a major purpose of supporting or opposing any ballot issue or ballot question;” and has “accepted or made contributions or expenditures in excess of two hundred dollars to support or oppose any ballot issue or ballot question.” Colo. Const. art. XXVIII, § 2(10)(a); 8 CCR 1505-6, Rule 1.16.

Citizens for NO New Debt is not a major purpose to support or oppose ballot issues as I have stated numerous times in emails and phone calls to Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott. I formed this organization before I ever had any idea of opposing Denver Public Schools debt, before this DPS debt ballot issue was ever created by DPS in the first place. For some reason, Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott have been determined from the beginning to tell me what my life’s purpose is and what my organization’s purpose is – this is completely unacceptable for them to tell me the purpose of my life.

30. In this context “major purpose” means “support of or opposition to a ballot issue or ballot question that is reflected by: (I) An organization’s specifically identified objectives in its organizational documents at the time it is established; or (II) An organization’s demonstrated pattern of conduct.” § 1-45-103(12)(b), C.R.S. (2024).

Citizens for NO New Debt is not a major purpose to support or oppose ballot issues as I have stated numerous times in emails and phone calls to Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott. I formed this organization before I ever had any idea of opposing Denver Public Schools debt, before this DPS debt ballot issue was ever created by DPS in the first place. For some reason, Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott have been determined from the beginning to tell me what my life’s purpose is and what my organization’s purpose is – this is completely unacceptable for them to tell me the purpose of my life.

31. For organizations supporting or opposing non-statewide measures, an organization’s demonstrated pattern of conduct relevant to its major purposes is determined by a “non-exclusive set of factors,” drawn from Cerbo v. Protect Colorado Jobs, Inc., 240 P.3d 495, 501-02 (Colo. App. 2010); 8 CCR 1505-6, Rule 4.4.1(b).

Citizens for NO New Debt is not a major purpose to support or oppose ballot issues as I have stated numerous times in emails and phone calls to Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott. I formed this organization before I ever had any idea of opposing Denver Public Schools debt, before this DPS debt ballot issue was ever created by DPS in the first place. For some reason, Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott have been determined from the beginning to tell me what my life's purpose is and what my organization's purpose is – this is completely unacceptable for them to tell me the purpose of my life.

32. Under Colorado law, any issue committee “spending more than one thousand dollars per calendar year on a communication that . . . supports or opposes a ballot issue . . . shall include in the communication a disclaimer statement.” § 1-45-108.3(1), C.R.S. (2024).

We're not an issue committee. By the way, my first meeting with Denver Elections, Nick Mahon, Denver's compliance attorney, said, quote, “looks like an i.e., since you're doing much more than just elections.”

33. That disclaimer statement “must conform to the requirements specified in section 1-45-107.5(5) for content, size, duration, and placement.” § 1-45-108.3(2), C.R.S. (2024).

OH my god, throw me in prison. No “registered agent” on a \$300 ad. By the way, the Denver Post designed this \$300 ad, not me.

34. Under section 1-45-107.5(5), that disclaimer must state that “(I) The communication has been ‘paid for by (full name of the person paying for the communication)’; and (II) Identif[y] a natural person who is the registered agent if the person identified in subsection (5)(a)(I) . . . is not a natural person.” § 1-45-107.5(5), C.R.S. (2024).

I had “Paid for by: Citizens for NO New Debt” on all my ads. I was obviously not trying to hide anything as Jim Scott pointed out in his settlement agreement.

CLAIM ONE
FAILURE TO REGISTER
(§ 1-45-108(3.3), C.R.S.)

35. All preceding allegations are incorporated.

36. In 2024, Citizens for No New Debt had a major purpose of supporting or

opposing any ballot issue or ballot question, and spent more than \$200 opposing any ballot issue or ballot question—specifically, Ballot Issue 4A.

Citizens for NO New Debt is not a major purpose to support or oppose ballot issues as I have stated numerous times in emails and phone calls to Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott. I formed this organization before I ever had any idea of opposing Denver Public Schools debt, before this DPS debt ballot issue was ever created by DPS in the first place. For some reason, Timothy Gebhardt and Jim Scott have been determined from the beginning to tell me what my life's purpose is and what my organization's purpose is – this is completely unacceptable for them to tell me the purpose of my life.

37. Citizens for No New Debt did not register as an issue committee with the Secretary of State.

We're not an issue committee. By the way, my first meeting with Denver Elections, Nick Mahon, Denver's compliance attorney, said, quote, "looks like an i.e., since you're doing much more than just elections."

38. The Division is entitled to relief under Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution and the Fair Campaign Practices Act, § 1-45-101 et seq.

Fines paid to the Division that go into the Division are a conflict of interest and drive attorneys to make things up and to deceive the public with fraudulent nonsense. Do the fines go to the Division? Jim Scott would not give me an answer to this when I asked him about this.

CLAIM TWO

FAILURE TO REPORT

(§ 1-45-108(1)(a)(i), C.R.S.)

39. All preceding allegations are incorporated.

40. In 2024, Citizens for No New Debt qualified as an issue committee under Colorado law.

I qualify for a thousand things, doesn't mean that's what I am.

41. Nonetheless, although Citizens for No New Debt—listed alongside its registered agent, Jason Bailey—did file 48-hour reports of some of its independent expenditures, it did not file reports of contributions and expenditures with the Secretary of State.

The 48-hours report was exactly what I was told to file by Myra and Myra is the person who is being honest pertaining to this whole situation. Furthermore, I emailed to Jim Scott all my bank statements since opening my account with Citywide Banks. In November I emailed every transaction to Jim Scott the day after he asked for such.

42. The Division is entitled to relief under Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution and the Fair Campaign Practices Act, § 1-45-101 et seq.

Fines paid to the Division that go into the Division are a conflict of interest and drive attorneys to make things up and to deceive the public with fraudulent nonsense. Do the fines go to the Division? Jim Scott would not give me an answer to this when I asked him about this.

CLAIM THREE
FAILURE TO REGISTER
(§ 1-45-108(1), C.R.S.)

43. All preceding allegations are incorporated.

44. In 2024, Citizens for No New Debt spent \$8,031.21 on advertisements opposing Ballot Issue 4A.

45. Although those advertisements included the disclaimer: “Paid for by Citizens for No New Debt,” they did not identify Respondent’s registered agent.

I had disclaimers on my ads. I did, inadvertently not have my registered agent name on the digital ads. I did, however, have my registered agent name on the majority of the advertising, which was the printed insert into the Denver Post, \$4,940 (\$4,100 to print and \$840 to insert) of the approximately \$8,100 spent. I mentioned this to Jim Scott on the phone and I said that I would be glad to drop off printed copies to show him, he said “well we have so much security here.” Jim’s comment was obviously to scare me rather than to discover the reality of the disclaimer pertaining to the majority of the advertising expense.

46. The Division is entitled to relief under Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution and the Fair Campaign Practices Act, § 1-45-101 et seq.

Fines paid to the Division that go into the Division are a conflict of interest and drive attorneys to make things up and to deceive the public with fraudulent nonsense. Do the fines go to the Division? Jim Scott would not give me an answer to this when I asked him about this.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

YES exactly, please give me relief from this 9 months of harassment, due to a tiny inadvertent error. This has caused enormous stress and anger in my life and my attitude towards Colorado's government in general as they bully and empire build at all costs to the Citizens of the City. I respectfully motion to dismiss this complaint due to missed deadlines by the Division and because the complaint is riddled with inaccuracies.

Furthermore, I have reason to believe, and evidence, that this investigation was tainted from the beginning due to my reaction when the Division took my cell number and published it to the internet and then took zero responsibility or concern for my situation (my cell number popped-up immediately with a simple google search). And then demanding that I beg for mercy and that I'm so scared and frightened for my life and what other people might do to me --- all this in order to have my cell number removed from the internet.

The Division should never have published my cell number to the internet and if they do they should never tell a person to beg for mercy in order to have the cell number removed from the internet.

How this entire investigation has been handled has changed my understanding of government. I think you all get kicked so much in the media that you kick the dog (me).

One would think that our tax dollars would go to better use than stepping on grass-roots democracy with this bizarre over-done investigation into a tiny inadvertent error.

Do keep in mind that Carrie Olson won the election. She added another \$975 million in debt for the kids to pay off when they get out of high school and take on a job. The kids will need to pay-back \$2.2 billion before they have this debt paid off. Carrie Olson is basically bankrupting the Denver Public Schools so that she and the DPS administrators can keep sucking payroll for a few more years.

WHEREFORE, the Elections Division prays for judgment and relief as follows:

1. Penalties as set out under 8 CCR 1505-6, Rule 23.4.3.
2. Such other relief as the Hearing Officer may deem appropriate.

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of June, 2025

PHILIP J. WEISER
Attorney General

/s/ Peter G. Baumann

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*Counsel of Record

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that I will cause the foregoing to be served this 16th day of June, 2025, by email and/or U.S. mail, addressed as follows:

Citizens for No New Debt
C/O Registered Agent J Robert Bailey
1410 Grant St.
C-205
Denver, CO 80203
Bailey@citizensfornonewdebt.org
Respondent

Dr. Carrie Olson
754 S. Ivy St.
Denver, CO 80224
carrieaolson@gmail.com
Third-Party Complainant

/s/ Peter G. Baumann

Jason Bailey
Citizens for NO New Debt
Red ink is my reply
July 14, 2025

I respectfully motion to dismiss this complaint due to missed deadlines by the Division and because the complaint is riddled with inaccuracies.

Signed Jason Bailey by Jason Bailey