

ARKANSAS ETHICS COMMISSION

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September 24, 2026

Honorable Kim Hammer
State Senator – District 16
1201 Military Road, Suite 2, PMB #285
Benton, Arkansas 72015

Re: Case Nos. 2026-CO-019, 2026-CO-020, and 2026-CO-067

Dear Senator Hammer:

On February 27, 2026, the Ethics Commission (the “Commission”) mailed you a letter containing a copy of the citizen complaint filed against you in Case No. 2026-CO-019. That same day, the Commission mailed you a letter containing a copy of the citizen complaint filed against you in Case No. 2026-CO-020. In those letters, the Commission notified you that an investigation was being commenced regarding the issue of whether or not you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A) in your capacity as State Senator - District 16 and as a candidate for Secretary of State in connection with the production of a campaign advertisement video that (i) was filmed in your office at the State Capitol, (ii) included the display of the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas, (iii) included the display of state owned office furniture, and (iv) featured you signing official letterhead and stationery. That particular statutory provision and the allegation with which it corresponded was set forth in the notice letter for each respective case.

On March 19, 2026, staff presented the preliminary results of its investigation for Case Nos. 2026-CO-019 and 2026-CO-020 to the Commission. The Commission found that the issues presented in Case Nos. 2026-CO-019 and 2026-CO-020 were appropriate for consolidation for case management purposes. The Commission issued an Order of Consolidation and directed staff to complete the investigation for the consolidated matter. On April 13, 2026, you were notified of the Commission’s decision by letter.

On April 24, 2026, the Commission mailed you a letter containing a copy of the citizen complaint filed against you in Case No. 2026-CO-067. That letter notified you that an investigation was being commenced regarding the issue of whether or not you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A)

in your capacity as State Senator - District 16 and as a candidate for Secretary of State in connection with the production of a campaign video.

On May 15, 2026, staff presented the preliminary results of its investigation for Case No. 2026-CO-067. The Commission found that the issues presented in Case Nos. 2026-CO-019, 2026-CO-020, and 2026-CO-067 were appropriate for consolidation for case management purposes. The Commission issued an Order of Consolidation and directed staff to complete the investigation for the consolidated matter.

On August 21, 2026, after considering both the results of the investigation and the applicable law, the Commission decided that probable cause exists for finding that you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A) in your capacity as State Senator - District 16 and as a candidate for Secretary of State in connection with the production of a campaign advertisement video that (i) was filmed in an office at the State Capitol, (ii) included the display of state owned office furniture, and (iii) featured you signing official letterhead and stationery.

Please be advised that the Ethics Commission is receipt of the written Offer of Settlement which you signed on September 2, 2026, and returned to us. Pursuant thereto, you agreed to a finding by the Commission that you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A) in your capacity as State Senator - District 16 and as a candidate for Secretary of State in connection with the production of a campaign advertisement video that (i) was filmed in an office at the State Capitol, (ii) included the display of state owned office furniture, and (iii) featured you signing official letterhead and stationery.

During a sworn statement you gave during the course of the investigation, you acknowledged that the video released on Facebook that was the subject of the complaints in this matter was recorded for your campaign. You further acknowledged that the stationary shown while you were sitting at a Senate office desk was supplied by the Senate.

In accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-218(b)(1)(C), this letter serves as notice of the Commission's final action together with the reasons for such action. In that regard, we note that the final action concerning this matter was the issuance of a Public Letter of Caution and the imposition of a \$100.00 fine.

The foregoing action was taken as a result of your signing a written Offer of Settlement pursuant to which it was agreed that the Commission make a finding that you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A) in your capacity as State Senator - District 16 and as a candidate for Secretary of State in connection with the production of a campaign advertisement video that (i) was filmed in an office at the State Capitol, (ii) included the display of state owned office furniture, and (iii) featured you signing official letterhead and stationery.

This letter is a public document, and a copy is being sent to the Complainants to notify them of the outcome of these proceedings.

Hon. Kim Hammer
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If you should have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jill Rogers Barham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Rogers Barham
Interim Director

cc: Mr. Rick McKay, Mr. Barry Eggers, and Mr. Robert Craig

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September 24, 2026

Honorable Kim Hammer
State Senator – District 16
1201 Military Road, Suite 2, PMB #285
Benton, Arkansas 72015

Re: Case Nos. 2026-CO-019, 2026-CO-020, and 2026-CO-067 (Consolidated)

Dear Senator Hammer:

On February 27, 2026, the Ethics Commission (the "Commission") mailed you a letter containing a copy of the citizen complaint filed against you in Case No. 2026-CO-019. That same day, the Commission mailed you a letter containing a copy of the citizen complaint filed against you in Case No. 2026-CO-020. In those letters, the Commission notified you that an investigation was being commenced regarding the issue of whether or not you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A) in connection with the production of a campaign advertisement video that (i) was filmed in your office at the State Capitol, (ii) included the display of the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas, (iii) included the display of state owned office furniture, and (iv) featured you signing official letterhead and stationery. That particular statutory provision and the allegation with which it corresponded was set forth in the notice letter for each respective case.

On April 24, 2026, the Commission mailed you a letter containing a copy of the citizen complaint filed against you in Case No. 2026-CO-067. That letter notified you that an investigation was being commenced regarding the issue of whether or not you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A) in your capacity as State Senator - District 16 and as a candidate for Secretary of State in connection with the production of a campaign video.

In those letters, the Commission notified you that an investigation was being commenced regarding the issue of whether or not you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A) in connection with the production of a campaign advertisement video that (i) was filmed in your office at the State Capitol, (ii) included the display of the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas, (iii) included the display of state owned office furniture, and (iv) featured you signing official letterhead and stationery.

You subsequently signed a written Offer of Settlement pursuant to which it was agreed that the Commission make a finding that you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3)(A) in your capacity as State Senator - District 16 and as a candidate for Secretary of State in connection with the production of a campaign advertisement video that (i) was filmed in an office at the

Hon. Kim Hammer

Case Nos. 2026-CO-019, 2026-CO-020, & 2026-CO-067 (Consolidated)

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State Capitol, (ii) included the display of state owned office furniture, and (iii) featured you signing official letterhead and stationery.

As part of its disposition of this matter, the Commission is hereby issuing you this **Public Letter of Caution** which is advisory in nature and serves to give clear notice that your conduct violated the law. You are advised not to engage in the same activity again.

This disciplinary action is taken pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-218(b)(4).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Tolbert", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Jason Tolbert
Chairman