

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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APOC Investigating Alaskans for Honest Elections

New evidence of additional campaign finance law violations also filed

ANCHORAGE—Alaskans for Better Elections today submitted to the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC) <u>additional evidence</u> demonstrating widespread violations by those attempting to repeal Alaska's open primary and ranked choice voting system.

Last week, ABE filed an APOC <u>complaint</u> alleging Alaskans for Honest Elections, Alaskans for Honest Government, Wellspring Ministries, Ranked Choice Education Association, Art Mathias, and Phillip Izon perpetrated more than two dozen campaign finance law violations. Yesterday, APOC formally accepted the complaint after determining that the facts alleged "if true, show violations of [campaign finance laws]" and notified respondents they have 15 days to respond to the allegations.

Below is a summary of <u>newly-discovered evidence</u> supporting the <u>original allegations</u>:

- The Ranked Choice Education Association (RCEA) "church" continues to issue incriminating communications, leaving no question that RCEA is operating as an unregistered ballot group while masquerading as a church. For example:
 - Confessing that the RCEA was formed as a "church";
 - Conceding that the RCEA accepted in kind contributions from an actual church, Wellspring Ministries;
 - Stating that the RCEA is responsible for getting the repeal measure "on the ballot";
 - Stating that the RCEA is "the group behind the repeal";
 - Stating that the RCEA is in control of the signature-gathering efforts for the measure in Alaska; and
 - o Making partisan statements from the RCEA about other political figures.
- Evidence further implicating the "official" ballot group, Alaskans for Honest Elections (AHE), has come to light, including:
 - o Evidence that AHE was active for many months prior to registering with APOC; and
 - Conceding on social media that all donations from RCEA to AHE were actually unlawful contributions made in the name of another;
- Finally, Mr. Izon recently made public statements essentially confessing that another group he controls, Alaskans for Honest Government (AHG) operated an unregistered ballot group in violation of the law for many months prior to the filing of the complaint.

ABE thanks APOC for promptly processing its <u>complaint</u>. The investigation report is expected by August 10, 2023.