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Kelly Tshibaka and Preserve Democracy Accused of Violating Campaign Finance Laws

Allegations: Failure to register as a lobbyist, failure to register as a ballot group and disclose donors, failure to report campaign activities

ANCHORAGE—Alaskans for Better Elections today filed a <u>complaint</u> with the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC) alleging Kelly Tshibaka and her nonprofit, Preserve Democracy, perpetrated more than a dozen campaign finance law violations.

The chief allegations are:

- Preserve Democracy failed to register as a ballot group, which is necessary before advocating for or against a ballot proposition;
- Preserve Democracy failed to report in-kind contributions to the registered ballot group Alaskans for Honest Elections;
- Preserve Democracy failed to register as an Independent Expenditure Group prior to acting to influence an election;
- Kelly Tshibaka failed to register as a lobbyist, despite appearing before the legislature and publicly stating that she was advocating with the legislature.

"Alaskans are entitled to know who is influencing our elections," said Bruce Botelho, former Alaska Attorney General and board member of Alaskans for Better Elections. "Alaskans for Better Elections has registered with APOC and complied with all disclosure requirements. Voters deserve the same from everyone, no matter what side of the issue they're on."

After receiving the complaint, APOC will review it for probable cause and announce a timeline for the investigation.

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