

**MONTANA
LAW-PAC**

Nov 2 4 51 PM '00

November 2, 2000

Linda Vaughey
Commissioner of Political Practices
1205 Eighth Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

EXHIBIT 7
DATE 2/12/01
MB 659

RE: Notification of 13-25-225 (1) Omission

Dear Commissioner Vaughey:

I am writing to notify you of an inadvertent omission of identifying information from a political mailing made by the Montana Law PAC. As you know, Section 13-25-225 (1), MCA requires that a political communication by a political committee must include identifying information - the name of the organization, the name of the treasurer and the address.

Montana Law PAC had the mailing firm of Crouse, Malchow and Schlackman (hereinafter Crouse) prepare two positive political mail pieces - one outlining positive attributes of Pat Cotter's candidacy for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and one outlining positive attributes of Terry Trieweiler's candidacy for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

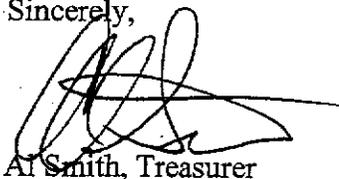
I noticed, prior to the pieces being printed, that the appropriate information (Paid for by the Montana Law-PAC, Al Smith, Treasurer, P.O. Box 838, Helena, MT 59624) was not on the pieces. I promptly contacted Crouse and they relayed to me that they were able to get the information to the printer before the pieces were printed and that everything was correct. I therefore assumed that we were in compliance with Section 225.

At 1:30 PM today I learned, from someone who received the Trieweiler piece, that "Paid for by the Montana Law-PAC, Al Smith, Treasurer," was not on the piece. I immediately contacted Crouse and they confirmed that the change had been approved and accepted by the printer, but that the printer had inexplicably omitted the required information. (See attached fax from Crouse). Crouse is in the process of getting a written statement from the printer to ascertain how this information was omitted. Crouse confirmed that the problem was only with the Trieweiler piece and that the Cotter piece has the required disclosure information.

The Trieweiler piece was mailed this week, beginning October 31, 2000. I have not yet received a copy in my office. Montana Law PAC is willing to make any reasonable effort to correct this inadvertent omission and to comply with Section 225 (1), but do not know what we can do now, as all 125,000 pieces are now either in the mail or have already been delivered.

We are dismayed that this omission was made, it was inadvertent on our part. We did what we could to assure compliance with Section 225 (1), but in the end had to rely upon professionals to do the final printing and mailing. If you require further information or have suggestions as to how we can remedy this omission at this time, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Al Smith, Treasurer



C. ROUNSE
MALCHOW &
SCHLACKMAN, PC
Targeted Political Communications
Washington, DC • San Francisco, CA

FAX

To: Al Smith

Recipient's Fax: 406-449-6943

From: Jamie

Sender's Phone: 202-478-7945

Date: 11/2/00

Cover + 1 pages

Message: Here is the letter explaining what happened with the disclaimer.



**CROUNSE
MALCHOW &
SCHLACKMAN** inc

Targeted Political Communications
Washington, DC • San Francisco, CA

November 2, 2000

Al Smith
Executive Director
Montana Trial Lawyers Association

32 S. Ewing, Suite 312
P.O. Box 838
Helena, Montana 59624

Dear Al,

I want to apologize for the missing disclaimer on the mail piece. On the date you requested the edit to the disclaimer, we contacted the printer and made sure that they changed the language properly. A fax was sent by the printer to us with the correct disclaimer. Obviously the piece was printed without the change that was made. We have faxed you the copy that the printer faxed us showing the correct information. We can have the printer contact you directly as well if you wish.

Again, I apologize for this. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to help further resolve this situation.

Sincerely,

Jim Crounse



CROUNSE
MALCHOW &
SCHLACKMAN
Targeted Political Communications
Washington, DC • San Francisco, CA

FAX

To: Al Smith

Recipient's Fax: 406-449-6943

From: Jamie Spaniole

Sender's Phone: 202-478-7945

Date: 11/2/00

Cover + 7 pages

Message: Here is the approved fax
that we got from the printer, and
below is the version that marked
w/o the disclaimer.

Notes? 1259/00
10/31/2000

Approved

Paid for by the Montana Law-PAC, Al Smith Treasurer
MTL0003



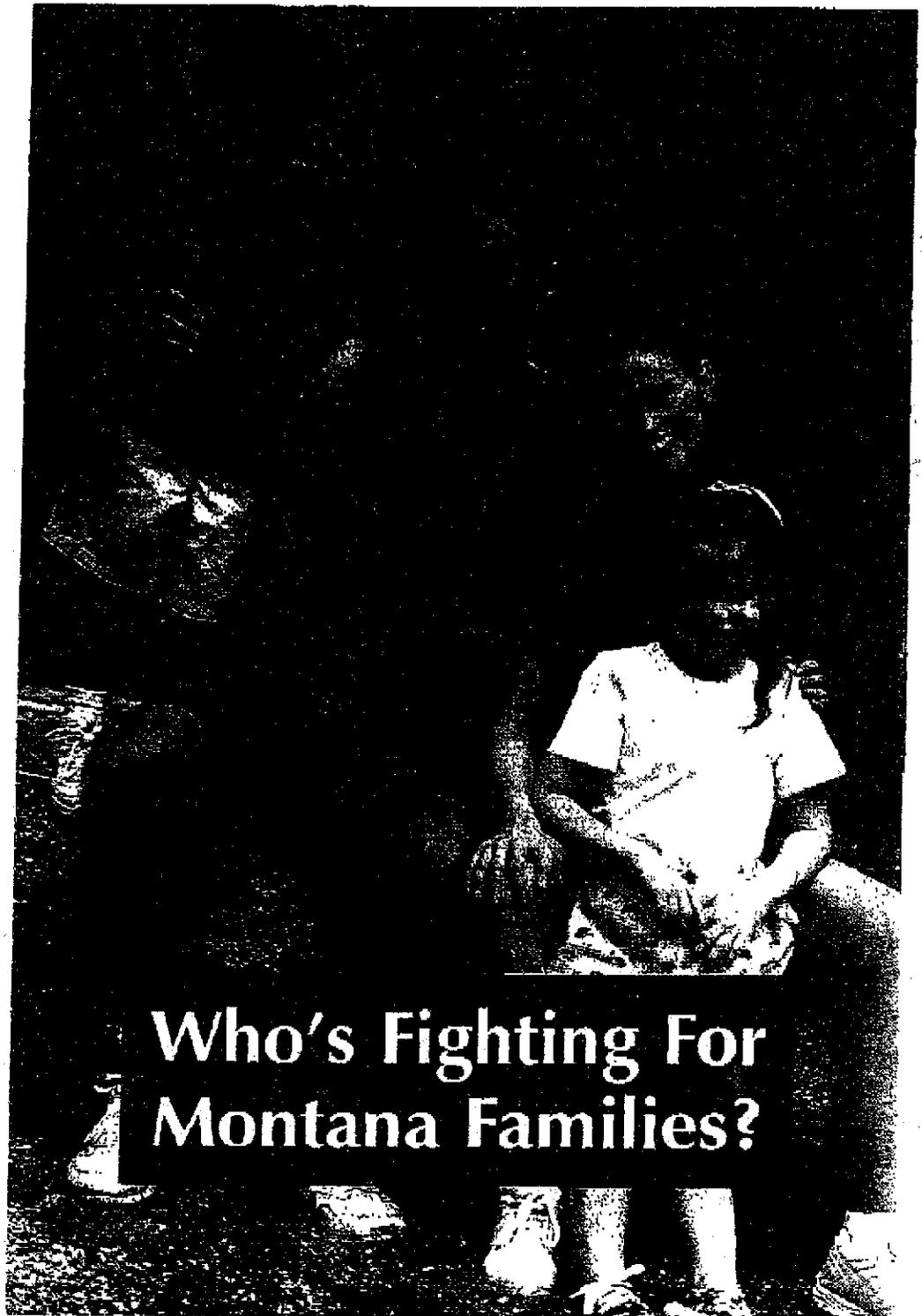
SXFLJ003

*Version that
mailed.*

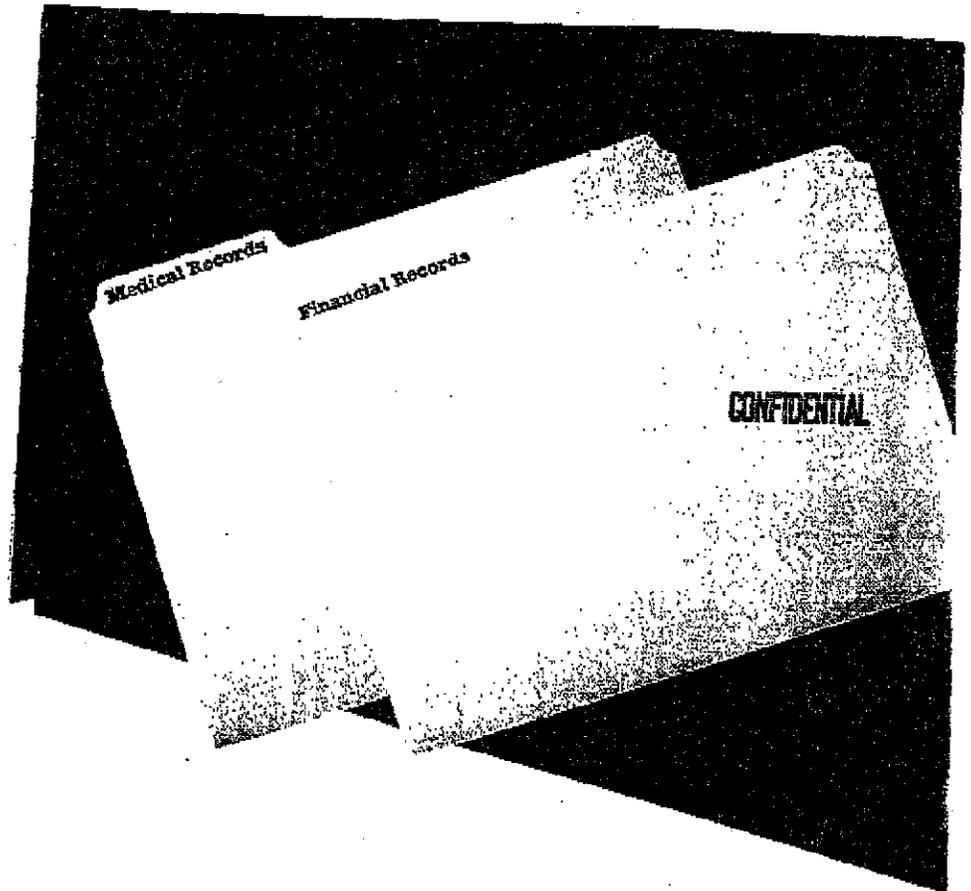


P.O. Box 838
Helena, MT 59624

Post. Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mail Mart



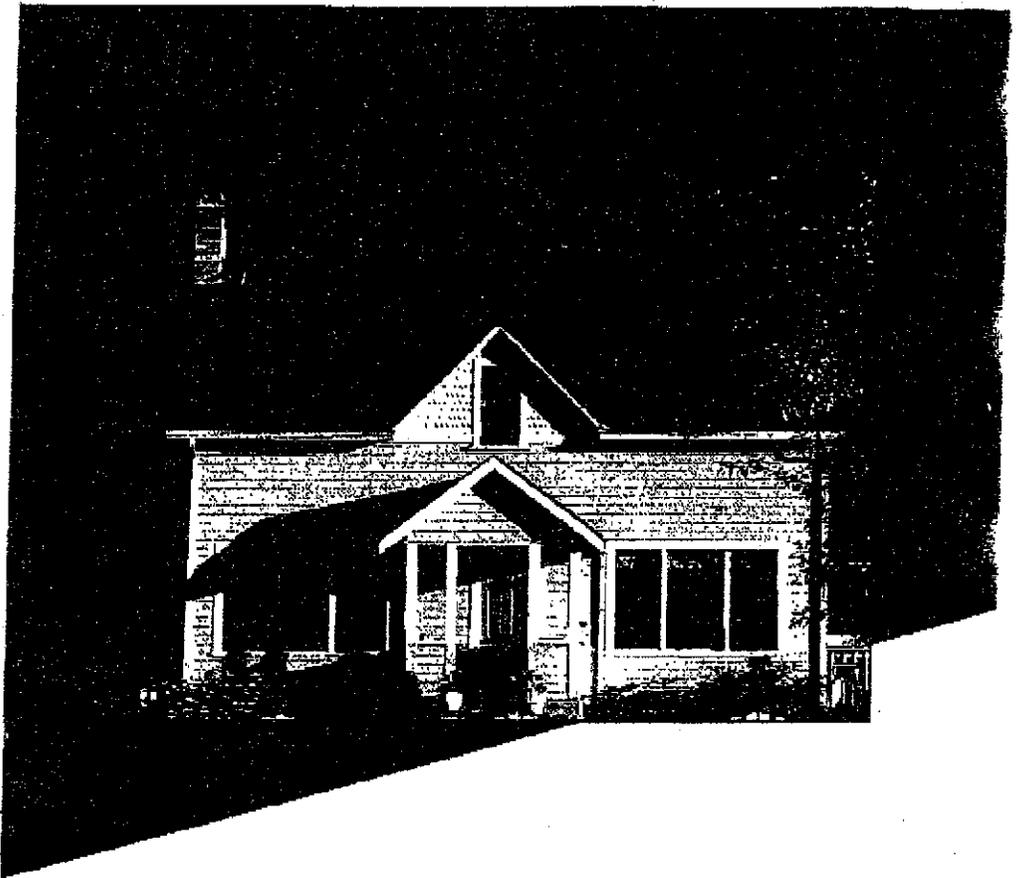
**Who's Fighting For
Montana Families?**



**Terry Trieweiler is
Protecting Your Privacy.**

He's fighting to protect your
right to keep your financial
and medical records private.²

2. *Missourian*, "Ecological Opposites Vie for High Com'l Leadership," 2/2/00, by Michael Moore. "Trieweiler's record suggests that he's more likely to side with the individual against the company." www.missourian.com



**Terry Trieweiler
Protects Property Owners.**

He wrote the opinion that
assured lower property taxes
for thousands of Montana families.¹

Upheld property tax freeze and assured lower taxes for all property owners, holding that part of the freeze discriminated against some property owners and that they bear a disproportionate share of the tax burden in violation of Montana's Constitution.
Krosvick v. Montana Department of Revenue, 1999 MT 30



**Terry Trieweiler is Fighting
for Montana Families.**

Terry Trieweiler is an experienced
Supreme Court Justice, fighting for
Montana's working families.



Terry Trieweiler

**for Chief Justice
Montana Supreme Court**