
STATE OF COLORADO
SECRETARY OF STATE
Administrative Hearing Office
1700 Broadway, Suite 550
Denver, CO 80290

Case number: 2025 AHO 12 CPF
(*in re* ED 2024-88)

IN THE MATTER OF:
ELECTIONS DIVISION of the SECRETARY OF STATE
Complainant
v.
YARA FOR COLORADO,
Respondent

SCHEDULING ORDER

1. Complainant filed an Administrative Hearing Officer Complaint April 17, 2025. The Complaint alleges violations of the Fair Campaign Practices Act (FCPA) in connection with text messages sent by Respondent Committee to voters in October 2024. The Complaint alleges that the texts failed to contain compliant disclaimers as required by FCPA § 1-45-108.3(3).

2. The normal sequence of the case was interrupted by what was described as an agreement “in principle” to settle the case in the Division’s Motion for Stay that was granted July 21, 2025. This agreement has apparently broken down—indicated by the December 18, 2025 Motion to Lift Stay.

3. In 2003, Colorado voters used the initiative process to codify the state's campaign finance framework in Colorado's Constitution, declaring that the public interest is "best served by . . . providing for full and timely disclosure of campaign contributions, independent expenditures, and funding of electioneering communications, and strong

enforcement of campaign finance requirements." Colo. Const. art. XXVIII, § 1. *Colo. Dep't of State v. Unite for Colo.*, 2024 COA 31, ¶28.

4. There cannot be “strong enforcement” of campaign finance requirements without timely responses, hearings and rulings. This case has advanced not at all since it was stayed in July. I will not grant the Division’s Motion to Lift Stay at this time, because it does not comply with Campaign & Political Finance [CPF] Rule 3.6.3(a) and (b) (8 Code Colo. Regs. 1505-3). I will await a response to the Motion from Respondent.

5. The pleadings, actions and events in this case shall happen on the schedule below. All pleadings shall be served on the hearing officer at administrativehearingofficer@coloradosos.gov and on the other people using the address shown for them in the Certificate of Service below.

Pleading or event	Date of event
Yara’s Response to Motion to Lift Stay	January 2, 2026
Yara’s Answer to the Complaint	January 2, 2026
Pre-hearing statements due and exhibits filed and exchanged	January 9, 2026
Exhibits list	January 14, 2026
Hearing	January 20, 2026 at 1:30 PM

6. Motions shall be handled in accordance with Campaign & Political Finance [CPF] Rule 3, 8 Code Colo. Regs. 1505-3.

7. **Prehearing Statements** shall comply with CPF Rule 3.11.

8. **Exchange of exhibits.** Exhibits of the parties are to be exchanged on the same date that Prehearing Statements are filed.

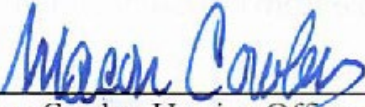
9. **Exhibit format.** Exhibits of the parties are also to be filed on the same date as the Prehearing Statements. Each party shall put its exhibits in a single bookmarked pdf file, with each exhibit labeled (with the Division using numbers and the Respondent using letters) and bookmarked within the pdf file. The exhibit “labels” must contain the exhibit number or letter, the hearing date and the case number.

10. **Trial Efficiencies.** Include in the Prehearing Statements an estimate of time needed for direct examination of each witness in each parties' case in chief, as well as the amount of time required to try the case.

11. The Division shall file **a single exhibit list**, noting stipulations as to admissibility and objections by the parties, using the template that will be provided by the Court Clerk on request.

12. **Hearing in this matter**, pursuant to §1-45-111.7(6)(a) and §24-4-105, C.R.S. is hereby scheduled for Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 1:30 PM in the hearing room of the Secretary of State at 1700 Broadway, Suite 550, Denver, CO 80290.

SO ORDERED this 20th day of April 2025.



Macon Cowles, Hearing Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that one true copy of this Scheduling Order was sent via email on December 19, 2025 to the following:

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Third-Party Complainant

/s/ N. B. Porte

Nathan Borochoff-Porte, Administrative Court Clerk