



STATE OF MAINE  
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS  
AND ELECTION PRACTICES  
135 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0135

## **Agenda**

**January 31, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**

Note: this meeting will be conducted in person and streamed on the Commission's YouTube channel. A link to the channel may be found at [www.maine.gov/ethics](http://www.maine.gov/ethics).

### **1. Ratification of the Minutes of the November 29, 2023 Meeting**

### **2. Complaint by William Clardy against Sen. Troy Jackson**

Mr. William Clardy requests that the Commission investigate whether legal services received by State Senator Troy Jackson are a gift from his attorney which Sen. Jackson should have disclosed in his annual sources of income statements. He responds they are not a gift because he agreed to pay the law firm under a contingent fee agreement. Mr. Clardy also asks the Commission to investigate whether the law firm was required to file a report with the Commission because it made expenditures on behalf of Sen. Jackson. The Commission may consider part of this item in executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 1013(3-A). *Staff recommendation: Commission staff recommends taking no action on the complaint.*

### **3. Late Major Contributor Report – Genuine Parts Company (continued from Nov. 29, 2023)**

Genuine Parts Company requested a waiver for a late-filing penalty, which was continued by the Commission from its November 29, 2023 meeting to ensure that a representative of the company could contribute. Genuine Parts Company (NAPA) contributed \$500,000 to promote Question 4, the right to repair initiative. A contributor that has donated more than \$100,000 and received a major contributor notice is required to file a major contributor report with the Commission by the next filing deadline applicable to ballot question committees and PACs. Genuine Parts Company should have filed a major contributor report with the Commission by October 5, 2023, but it filed the report one day late on October 6. The preliminary penalty against Genuine Parts Company for filing the report late is \$50,000, which is 10% of its \$500,000 contribution to promote the initiative. Genuine Parts Company has requested a waiver of the penalty.

### **4. Late Notices by Our Power to Two Major Contributors - Rescheduled**

In August and October 2023, the Our Power ballot question committee ("BQC") was required to send written notices to two of its contributors, 128 Collective Initiatives and the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, advising them that they were required to file Major Contributor Reports with the Commission. The notices were required because the organizations had made contributions of more than \$100,000 to Our Power to support Question 3 on the November 7, 2023 ballot, which proposed a new power company to transmit electricity in Maine. Our Power was late in sending the notices to the two contributors and copies to the Commission. The preliminary penalties against Our Power for the late notices total \$28,155.08. Our Power requests a waiver.

**5. Adoption of Rule Amendments**

At its October 25, 2023 meeting, the Commission voted to initiate a rulemaking on proposed amendments to the Commission’s rules. Comments were accepted through December 15, 2023. The Commission will decide whether to adopt the proposed amendments.

**6. Proposed Rulemaking on Spending by Foreign Government-Influenced Entities**

The Commission will consider whether to initiate a rulemaking to implement Question 2, which was approved by Maine voters on November 7, 2023. The new law forbids foreign governments and entities that they own or control from making campaign contributions or financing communications for or against candidates or ballot questions.

**Executive Session (if necessary)**

**Other Business**

**ADJOURNMENT**