

September 14, 2020

Office of General Counsel Federal Election Commission 1050 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20463

To Whom It May Concern:

We respectfully request that your office begin an immediate investigation into the Republican Jewish Coalition Victory Fund (RJC Victory Fund) for what appears to be a clear violation of federal election law to benefit Senator Susan Collins' reelection campaign.

On September 9, 2020, the RJC Victory Fund announced an advertisement that features extensive video footage produced, created, and published by Senator Collins' campaign on its publicly available YouTube channel. The RJC Victory Fund ad can be viewed <a href="here">here</a>.

More than half of the 30-second ad contained footage that the Collins For Senator ("the Collins Committee") had produced, created, and posted online. The use of the footage by RJC Victory Fund qualifies as "republication" of campaign materials, and therefore RJC Victory Fund made an excessive in-kind contribution to the Collins Committee by spending \$400,000 on the ad. Under 52 U.S. Code § 30116 (a)(7)(B)(iii) and 11 C.F.R. 109.23, republication "in whole or in part" of a candidate's campaign material is to be treated as an expenditure or in-kind contribution to the campaign.

An accounting of RJC Victory Fund's use of the Collins Committee's materials is found in Appendix 1, attached to the body of this letter below.

Republication of campaign materials in this wholesale way for a major ad expenditure is no different from an excessive contribution and is prohibited by federal law.

We believe the facts laid out above clearly show that RJC Victory Fund's ad is a clear violation of federal election law to illegally benefit Senator Susan Collins' reelection campaign. We request an immediate investigation into this matter.

Sincerely,

—Docusigned by:
Brad Woodhouse

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Brad Woodhouse

President

## **APPENDIX 1**







