

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY:
CASE NUMBER
c 2024-087

COMPLAINT FORM

COMPLAINANT: Hannah Humphreys
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]
TITLE: —

RESPONDENT: Christa Williams
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]
TITLE: —

Set forth in detail specific facts upon which you based your complaint against above-named respondent (only detailed, clear factual allegations will be considered. If additional space is needed, attach supplemental sheets).

Christa Williams recently ran in Columbia, SC, for Richland County School Board, Seat 2. She has neglected to report paid for text messages for her campaign. It is not currently on any ethics report.

If there is a finding of probable cause, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response (if any) by respondent, and the notice of hearing. If a hearing is to be held, the final order and all exhibits become public record. If no hearing is held following a finding of probable cause, the final disposition of the matter becomes public record.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Richland

Personally appeared before me Hannah Humphreys who, first being duly sworn, says that he/she has read and knows the contents of the above complaint and that the allegations contained therein, are true and correct to the best of his/her own knowledge, except for those matters therein based upon information and belief, and as to those he/she believes them to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
11th day of Nov, 2024

[REDACTED]
Complainant Signature

[REDACTED]
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission expires 3/29/2032

SEC-7 (Revised 3/2022)

REPLY TO: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 (803)253-4192
ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
)	
IN THE MATTER OF:)	
)	
Complaint C2024-087)	
)	
Hannah Humphreys)	NOTICE OF HEARING
Complainant.)	
)	
Christa Williams)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaint. The Commission will convene a formal hearing into the matter in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
FAILURE TO FILE A CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2025 Quarter 1 Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR), in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT TWO
FAILURE TO MAINTAIN CAMPAIGN RECORDS
SECTION 8-13-1302, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland

County, fail to maintain campaign records, in violation of Section 8-13-1302.

COUNT THREE
FAILURE TO REPORT A CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to report a September 5, 2024 campaign expenditure to Faire in the amount of \$19.99, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT FOUR
FAILURE TO REPORT A CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to report a September 9, 2024 campaign expenditure to Google X in the amount of \$11.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT FIVE
FAILURE TO REPORT A CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to report a September 18, 2024 campaign expenditure to Google CapCut in the amount of \$9.99, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT SIX
FAILURE TO REPORT A CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to report an October 21, 2024 campaign expenditure to Google Bytedance in the amount of \$9.99, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT SEVEN
FAILURE TO REPORT A CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to report an October 21, 2024 campaign expenditure to Trilliarden in the amount of \$4.99, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT EIGHT
FAILURE TO REPORT A CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to report a November 12, 2024 campaign expenditure to Textedly in the amount of \$27.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT NINE
FAILURE TO DEPOSIT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1312, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to deposit cash campaign contributions into her campaign bank account, in violation of Section 8-13-1312.

COUNT TEN
FAILURE TO MAKE EXPENDITURE THROUGH CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT
SECTION 8-13-1312, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland County, fail to make nine (9) campaign expenditures totaling \$1,550.90 through her campaign bank account, in violation of Section 8-13-1312.

COUNT ELEVEN
USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR PERSONAL EXPENSES
SECTION 8-13-1348, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District 1, did in Richland

County, use \$10.64 of campaign funds on November 25, 2024 at McDonald's, in violation of Section 8-13-1348.

You have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. This hearing will be open to the public as required by Section 8-13-320(10)(j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The procedures to be followed are set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 1-23-10, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Act, Section 8-13-100, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.).

A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.



Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 21st day,
of May 2025.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on the RESPONDENT Christa Williams, 2205 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201 by depositing said **NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 10th day of June 2025, by CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.



Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant

State Ethics Commission

(803) 253-4192

Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
)	
IN THE MATTER OF:)	
)	
Complaint C2024-087)	
)	
Hannah Humphreys)	AMENDED
Complainant.)	NOTICE OF HEARING
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Christa Williams)	
Respondent.)	
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The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaint. The Commission will convene a formal hearing into the matter in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

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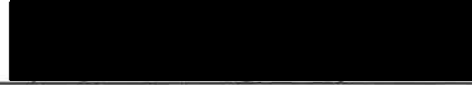
[REDACTED]

Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 14th day,
of July 2025.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on the RESPONDENT Christa Williams, 2205 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201 by depositing said **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 15th day of July 2025, by **CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.



Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant
State Ethics Commission (803) 253-4192

Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaint C2024-087)
Hannah Humphreys)
Complainant.)
Christa Williams)
Respondent.)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

MOTION TO DISMISS

Pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10) of South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act (Ethics Act) and Regulation 52-703(C), the undersigned counsel hereby seeks an Order from the Commission dismissing the above-captioned complaint. This motion is based on the following:

1. On November 14, 2024, the above-captioned Complaint was filed against Respondent Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District One in a November 5, 2024 election. According to the Complaint, Respondent failed to properly disclose campaign expenditures for text messages sent on November 1, 2024 and November 5, 2024.
2. The Executive Director found the complaint alleged facts sufficient and ordered an investigation into the matter.
3. The Commission subsequently found probable cause to believe Respondent violated the Ethics Act and a Notice of Hearing was issued alleging Respondent: (1) failed to timely file a Quarter 1, 2025 Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR) in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B); (2) failed to properly disclose campaign contributions and expenditures in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F); (3) failed to use a campaign bank account in violation of Section 8-13-1312; and (4) impermissibly used \$10.64 in campaign funds for personal use.
4. Although the Complaint alleged Respondent failed to disclose campaign expenditures, the CDR on which these specific expenditures should have been disclosed was not yet due at the time the Complaint was filed. Accordingly, Commission staff believes that the Complaint was opened in error.
5. Respondent has remedied any deficiencies found within her CDRs during the Commission's investigation.
6. Due to the aforementioned, Commission staff asks that this matter be dismissed.

7. Respondent was consulted prior to the filing of this Motion and has no objection.

Respectfully submitted,



Courtney M. Laster (Bar No. 77807)
S.C. State Ethics Commission
201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150
Columbia, South Carolina 29210
claster@ethics.sc.gov

Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaint C2024-087)
Hannah Humphreys)
Complainant.)
Christa Williams)
Respondent.)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

**NOTICE OF MOTION
TO DISMISS HEARING**

Courtney Laster, General Counsel for the State Ethics Commission, filed a Motion to Dismiss in the above captioned matter on September 17, 2025. The State Ethics Commission will, therefore, convene a hearing in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10) of the South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act (Ethics Act) and S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 52-703(C) on November 20, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Ethics Commission Hearing Room located at 201 Executive Center Drive Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.


Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 9th day,
of October 2025.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaint C2024-087)
Hannah Humphreys)
Complainant.)
Christa Williams)
Respondent.)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

ORDER

Pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10) of the South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act (Ethics Act), the State Ethics Commission convened on November 20, 2025, and heard Commission staff's Motion to Dismiss the above-captioned Complaint based on the following:

1. On November 14, 2024, the Complaint was filed against Respondent Christa Williams, candidate for Richland County School District One in a November 5, 2024 election. According to the Complaint, Respondent failed to properly disclose campaign expenditures for text messages sent on November 1, 2024 and November 5, 2024.
2. The Executive Director found the complaint alleged facts sufficient and ordered an investigation into the matter.
3. The Commission subsequently found probable cause to believe Respondent violated the Ethics Act and a Notice of Hearing was issued alleging Respondent: (1) failed to timely file a Quarter 1, 2025 Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR) in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B); (2) failed to properly disclose campaign contributions and expenditures in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F); (3) failed to use a campaign bank account in violation of Section 8-13-1312; and (4) impermissibly used \$10.64 in campaign funds for personal use.
4. Although the Complaint alleged Respondent failed to disclose campaign expenditures, the CDR on which these specific expenditures should have been disclosed was not yet due at the time the Complaint was filed. Accordingly, the Complaint was opened in error.
5. Respondent has remedied the deficiencies found within her CDRs during the Commission's investigation.

Based on the foregoing, and in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-703(C) and 52-

706(C), the Commission hereby grants the Motion to Dismiss C2024-087.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 20th DAY OF November, 2025.

SOUTH CAROLINA ETHICS COMMISSION



F. XAVIER STARKES, CHAIR

Columbia, South Carolina