



Judicial Standards Commission State of Montana

COMPLAINT

The undersigned being first duly sworn, upon oath, states the following facts showing misconduct on the part of the following named judge, to-wit:

NAME OF JUDGE: Candidate for Missoula Justice of the Peace Matthew Lowy

**ADDRESS: 5138 Horn Drive
Missoula, MT 59808**

Based on the attached Canons of Ethics, please cite which Canon(s) you feel the judge has violated and why. If you cannot clearly identify which canon the judge has violated, then your complaint is not within the purview of this Commission to review.

I believe Matthew Lowy has violated of the Canons of Judicial Ethics adopted by the Supreme Court of the State of Montana, which may include conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice which brings the judicial office into disrepute, or impropriety. More specifically Rule 4.1 (A) (7): Except as permitted by law, or by Rules 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4, a judge or a judicial candidate shall not seek, accept, or use endorsements from a political organization, or partisan or independent non-judicial office-holder or candidate.

The facts of the above Judge's misconduct or unethical conduct are as follows: (Please state in your own words the misconduct or unethical conduct of the judge. Provide information as to when and where the misconduct occurred, and the names of any other people involved.)

On Saturday April 5, 2014 I received an anonymous letter addressed to myself, the other four candidates for Missoula Justice of the Peace 1 (Including Matthew Lowy), The Missoulian, The Missoula Independent, Judge Odlin, and Judge Orzech. In the letter, a concerned citizen pointed out that Matthew Lowy was breaking the Montana Judicial Code of Conduct by listing elected people who are endorsing his candidacy. Upon further investigation, Matthew Lowy's web site does list partisan office-holders and partisan candidates. Included in that list are his campaign treasurer, the Mayor of Missoula (who is identified on the Missoula County Democrats' website as representing a political party),

three County Commissioners, two State Senators, and a candidate for Missoula County Sheriff.

The Great State of Montana has chosen a non-partisan judicial selection process, in no small part because it is agreed that political endorsements, much more than judges' discussion of issues, lead to political indebtedness, which in turn has a corrosive impact on the public's perception of the judicial system.

For your convenience I have included with this formal complaint the anonymous letter I received, the list of political endorsements from Matt Lowy's website (matthewlowy.com), and a page from the Missoula Democrats' website showing the Mayor's Political affiliation.

I (have ____ / have not x) contacted the judicial candidate in regard to my complaint.

I will furnish additional information to your Commission if requested. If the complaint is investigated, I will cooperate with your Commission and furnish the evidence I may have and I will testify at any hearing on this complaint.

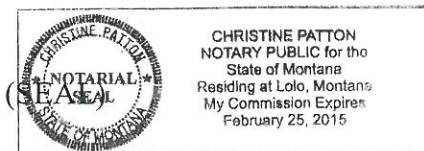
My full name, address and telephone number is:

NAME: Harlan Reid Wells
ADDRESS: 1617 Angelina Way
Missoula, MT 59808
PHONE #: (406) 544-7240

DATED this 8th day of April, 20 14.

[Signature]
SIGNATURE

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 8th day of April, 20 14.



Christine Patton
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Lolo Montana
My Commission expires February 25, 2015

RETURN TO:

SHELLY NASH, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION
PO BOX 203005
301 S. PARK, SUITE 328
HELENA, MT 59620-3005