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Sheriff Lou Vallario
Garfield County, Colorado

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: 2/24/2023

Time: 7:55 PM

Title: Allegations of Campaign Finance Violations against Vallario Dismissed

IMPORTANT: Please direct any media requests to the contact above. Do not contact the Garfield County Emergency Communications Center or Patrol staff for media requests.

GARFIELD COUNTY, CO. –

The Secretary of State dismissed allegations of Campaign Finance Violations against Garfield County Sheriff Lou Vallario.

On February 22, 2023, the Colorado Secretary of State, after an exhaustive and expensive investigation paid for by the taxpayers, dismissed ALL allegations of campaign finance violations against Garfield County Sheriff Lou Vallario. The decision “constitutes final agency action” on the part of the Secretary of State’s Office.

The complaint was filed on September 02, 2022. The underlying complainant was David Wheeler, the president of American Muckrakers PAC, Inc., a North Carolina political action committee registered with the Federal Election Commission. According to its website, the PAC is “dedicated solely to firing terrible candidates.” Apparently, Colorado Congresswomen Lauren Boebert was on their list.

The basis for these unsubstantiated allegations were to harass Sheriff Vallario who was supporting Boebert in her bid for re-election. This is supported by the Secretary of State’s findings that “while the PAC is involved in high-profile federal congressional races, it does not appear to be involved in any state-level campaigns”.

Except for the campaign of Sheriff Vallario, which was obviously a state-level campaign.

Sheriff Vallario knew these were politically motivated, frivolous allegations and was confident that he had committed no violations. He remained steadfast in his confidence that the outcome would be dismissal, as it was.

Sheriff Vallario said, “I’ve been an elected Official for 20 years and this is not my first rodeo. I am fully aware of my boundaries within the law. It is unfortunate that people from out of state do not understand, nor take the time to become educated on Colorado law.”

Sheriff Vallario would like to thank the staff at the Secretary of State's Office for a thorough investigation as well as all of his supporters who knew he would be vindicated.

No additional information will be released.

The mission of the Garfield County Sheriff's Office is to provide solutions for the people through professional, ethical and compassionate conduct.

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