

Scott A. Smith [KPDC]

To: Anne Spiess [KPDC]; Candice Wilson [KPDC]; Jennifer Schneider [KPDC]
Subject: FW: guidance mika milburn kee

FYI

From: Mika Milburn <mikamilburn1984@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2026 2:11 PM
To: Scott A. Smith [KPDC] <Scott.A.Smith@ks.gov>
Subject: Re: guidance mika milburn kee

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Scott,

Thank you and your colleagues so very much for your work put into presenting me with this determination. This is the best news I have received since the beginning of this. Thank you so very much to you and the others in your commission who spent time on this matter. I am grateful for the commissions careful consideration and determination provided.

Mika

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

On Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 1:52 PM, Scott A. Smith [KPDC] <Scott.A.Smith@ks.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon, Mika,

I am responding to your email inquiries below.

Funds donated or gifted to you for the purpose of paying for your legal defense of the criminal charges against you are not campaign *contributions* as defined by the Kansas Campaign Finance Act (CFA) and therefore do not need to be reported on any report required by the CFA.

You cannot use your commissioner campaign contributions for your legal defense of the specific charges against you. It is the donator's intent for the use of the funds that is key. Accordingly, I suggest that you, and anybody assisting you with raising funds for your legal defense, make it clear that you are not soliciting or accepting the funds as campaign contributions and that the funds will be used for your legal defense costs.

The foregoing applies to funds raised on the GoFundMe platform or by any other means.

Scott Smith

Investigator

Kansas Public Disclosure Commission

901 S Kansas | Topeka, KS 66612

785-291-3561

Scott.A.Smith@ks.gov | <https://kpsc.kansas.gov>



CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE NOTICE This email message, including attachments, if any, is intended for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use or disclosure is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy the original message, including all copies.

From: Mika Milburn <mikamilburn1984@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2026 11:45 AM
To: Scott A. Smith [KPDC] <Scott.A.Smith@ks.gov>
Cc: Tricia Bath <tricia@bathedmonds.com>
Subject: Re: guidance mika milburn kee

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you Scott. To clarify 3rd bullet pointfriends and family have asked if they can start a go fund me account. That would obviously be very helpful. I do not want to violate any rules!! I am being as proactive as possible through your assistance. I very much appreciate you helping me navigate this very difficult situation. Thank you so very much for the reply and your assistance in helping me navigate a clear way forward.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

On Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 11:23 AM, Scott A. Smith [KPDC] <Scott.A.Smith@ks.gov> wrote:

Mika,

We are reviewing your inquiries and will get a response to you as soon as possible. There are several people that need to be involved and that takes some time. In the meantime, could you please clarify your third bullet point inquiry? We are not clear on what information you are requesting.

Scott Smith

Investigator

Kansas Public Disclosure Commission

901 S Kansas | Topeka, KS 66612

785-291-3561

Scott.A.Smith@ks.gov | <https://kpdc.kansas.gov>



CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE NOTICE This email message, including attachments, if any, is intended for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use or disclosure is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy the original message, including all copies.

From: Mika Milburn <mikamilburn1984@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2026 10:10 AM
To: KGEC_Ethics <KPDC@KS.gov>
Subject: guidance mika milburn kee

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Kansas, Governmental Ethics Commission, (Scott Smith)

I am writing to request guidance regarding transparency and reporting requirements.

I have been personally charged by the Office of the Kansas Attorney General in the following matter:

**IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF BOURBON COUNTY,
KANSAS**

State of Kansas v. Mika Milburn-Kee

Count One: Interference with the Conduct of Public Business in Public Buildings (K.S.A. 21-5922(a)(5), Class A Nonperson Misdemeanor)

Count Two: Disorderly Election Conduct (K.S.A. 25-2413(c) & 25-2432, Class B Nonperson Misdemeanor)

I am seeking clarification to ensure full compliance with all applicable ethics and laws.

Specifically, I would like guidance on the following:

- if financial assistance for personal legal defense from family members or friends to assist with my personal legal defense are subject to reporting requirements under Kansas ethics or campaign finance.
- If such contributions must be disclosed, what reporting forms, timelines apply.
- use of any fundraising mechanism or direct to defense attorney.

My intent is to remain fully transparent and compliant with all legal and ethical obligations. I would greatly appreciate any guidance, advisory opinions you could provide.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,
Mika Milburn-Kee

Candice Wilson [KPDC]

From: Scott A. Smith [KPDC]
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2026 12:12 PM
To: annedare60@gmail.com
Cc: Anne Spiess [KPDC]; Candice Wilson [KPDC]; Jennifer Schneider [KPDC]
Subject: Complaint of fundraising for the legal defense of Mika Milburn-Kee
Attachments: Complaint Template.pdf

Ms. Dare:

The complaint you filed with the Kansas Attorney General's Office was forwarded to our agency. Do you intend to file a complaint with our agency? If yes, I have attached a copy of our complaint form for you to complete if you choose to do so. However, I do want to share some information with you regarding what our agency does and our ability to assist.

The Kansas Public Disclosure Commission (formerly the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission) enforces the Kansas Campaign Finance Act, state lobbying laws, and conflicts of interest and financial disclosure laws applicable to **state** level employees, officers, and officer candidates. We do not enforce any ethics / conflicts of interest laws applicable to local political officers, including county commissioners. You may wish to consult with your county attorney or county counselor to determine if there are any local ethics / conflicts of interest laws that may be implicated. In addition, except for lobbying, we do not regulate the activities of a citizen that is neither a government employee / officer nor a candidate for elected office.

Based on the information and allegations in your complaint, there is no apparent violation of any of the laws enforced by our office. However, if you have specific, verifiable information that may constitute a violation of the Kansas Campaign Finance Act, such as the commissioner using her campaign funds for her legal defense, then please let us know. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Scott Smith

Investigator
Kansas Public Disclosure Commission
901 S Kansas | Topeka, KS 66612
785-291-3561
Scott.A.Smith@ks.gov | <https://kpsc.kansas.gov>



CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE NOTICE This email message, including attachments, if any, is intended for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use or disclosure is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy the original message, including all copies.

From: Anne Dare <annedare60@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2026 10:19 AM
To: Higdon, Olivia <Olivia.Higdon@ag.ks.gov>
Subject: complaint of fundraising for the legal defense of Mika Milburn-Kee

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Office of The Attorney General of Kansas organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Formal Complaint Regarding Fundraising Activities Related to County Commissioners' Legal Defense

To: Kansas Attorney General's Office- Olivia Higdon

From: Anne Dare- Private Citizen

Date: April 13, 2026

Re: Alleged Improper Fundraising Activities by Private Citizens on Behalf of County Commissioners

I. Introduction

This complaint is submitted to request review and investigation into fundraising activities reportedly being conducted by private individuals on behalf of members of the citizens of Bourbon County. Specifically, it has come to attention that citizens are making phone calls to solicit funds for the legal defense of one county commissioner, Mika Milburn-Kee.

II. Statement of Facts

It is alleged that, on or about April 1-7, 2026, certain individuals have engaged in telephone-based fundraising efforts seeking financial contributions to support the legal defense of one or more sitting county commissioners.

These solicitations are reportedly being made to members of the public and may create the impression that the fundraising effort is connected to, endorsed by, or coordinated with official county government functions. At this time, it is unclear:

- Whether any county resources, staff time, or public funds are being used in connection with these efforts;
- Whether the commissioners themselves have authorized, directed, or are otherwise involved in these solicitations;
- Whether donors are being adequately informed that such fundraising is private in nature and not an official government activity.

III. Legal and Ethical Concerns

While private individuals generally have the right to raise funds for legal defenses, concerns arise if such activities intersect with public office in a manner that may violate Kansas law or ethical standards. Potential issues include:

- Misuse of public office for private gain;
- Use of public resources to support private fundraising;
- Creation of confusion regarding whether contributions are being solicited under official authority;
- Possible violations of applicable ethics, campaign finance, or governmental conduct laws.

If any public resources or official authority are being used in connection with these solicitations, such actions may warrant scrutiny under applicable Kansas statutes and regulations governing public officials.

IV. Request for Investigation

The undersigned respectfully requests that your office:

1. Investigate whether any county commissioners or public employees are directly or indirectly involved in these fundraising efforts;
2. Determine whether any public resources, facilities, or authority have been used in connection with the solicitations;
3. Assess whether the activities comply with applicable Kansas laws, regulations, and ethical standards; and
4. Take any appropriate enforcement or corrective action if violations are found.

V. Conclusion

Maintaining clear boundaries between private activities and public office is essential to preserving public trust. Fundraising efforts connected to elected officials, even when conducted by private citizens, should be carefully reviewed to ensure compliance with the law and to avoid any appearance of impropriety.

Please advise if additional information is needed to assist in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Dare

918 216th Terrace

Ft Scott, KS, 66701

620-217-9609

Candice Wilson [KPDC]

From: Candice Wilson [KPDC]
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 10:02 PM
To: 'Beatty, Jackie'
Cc: Anne Spiess [KPDC]; Higdon, Olivia
Subject: RE: complaint of fundraising for the legal defense of Mika Milburn-Kee

Jackie:

Thanks for the background and additional guidance. We are going to reach out to the complainant to get additional information before deciding how to proceed. If the complainant indicates that she is looking to file a criminal case, I will let Olivia know.

Have a great week!

Candice Wilson
General Counsel
Kansas Public Disclosure Commission
901 S Kansas Ave Topeka, KS, 66612
785.296.4235



CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE NOTICE This email message, including attachments, if any, is intended for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use or disclosure is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy the original message, including all copies.

From: Beatty, Jackie <Jackie.Beatty@ag.ks.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 8:04 AM
To: Candice Wilson [KPDC] <Candice.Wilson@ks.gov>
Cc: Anne Spiess [KPDC] <Anne.Spiess@ks.gov>; Higdon, Olivia <Olivia.Higdon@ag.ks.gov>
Subject: RE: complaint of fundraising for the legal defense of Mika Milburn-Kee

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

I first need to apologize when I sent the email I forwarded it with no background information.

That is fine with me for you to reach out to her, my unit is not able to take cases off of citizen complaints we have to be invited in by another agency for either investigative assistance, financial analysis assistance or taking the whole case

over. What we have done is send Mrs. Dare what we call constituent letters basically saying that our unit is not able to assist them.

If they are wanting to file a criminal case they will need to go through their local jurisdiction. I would think the only person who might be interested in this information is Olivia Higdon the prosecuting attorney I will cc her on this.

Thank you for reaching out have a great Monday!

Respectfully ,

SA Jackie Beatty

From: Candice Wilson [KPDC] <Candice.Wilson@ks.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2026 2:19 PM
To: Beatty, Jackie <Jackie.Beatty@ag.ks.gov>
Cc: Anne Spiess [KPDC] <Anne.Spiess@ks.gov>
Subject: RE: complaint of fundraising for the legal defense of Mika Milburn-Kee

Jackie:

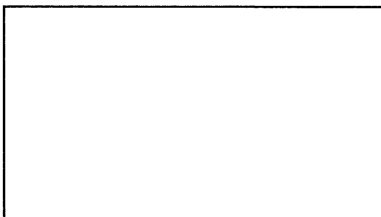
Hello! First, let me introduce myself: I am the new general counsel for KPDC. I started this past Monday and look forward to working with you to the extent that our jobs intersect. I have been brought up to speed on this complaint and am reaching out to hopefully clarify or come to a consensus on responding to it.

There are statutory/regulatory requirements for filing a complaint with our office that it appears that this citizen did not follow. So, my question to you is if you are ok with me reaching out to the complainant to clarify whether she is seeking a criminal or civil investigation into Mika's activities and to advise her of the requirements for properly filing a complaint with our office. Similarly, if you are ok with that approach, would you prefer that I copy you (or someone else from the AG's office) on that message to keep you in the loop in case the complainant intended for this complaint to be some sort of criminal referral?

I appreciate your patience as I familiarize myself with the role!

Thanks and have a great weekend,

Candice Wilson
General Counsel
Kansas Public Disclosure Commission
901 S Kansas Ave Topeka, KS, 66612
785.296.4235



CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE NOTICE This email message, including attachments, if any, is intended for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use or disclosure is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy the original message, including all copies.

Candice Wilson [KPDC]

From: Candice Wilson [KPDC]
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 4:05 PM
To: 'Beatty, Jackie'
Subject: RE: A letter to AG on State vs. Milburn Kee case

Received. Thanks for sending.

Enjoy the rest of your week,

Candice Wilson
General Counsel
Kansas Public Disclosure Commission
901 S Kansas Ave Topeka, KS, 66612
785.296.4235



CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE NOTICE This email message, including attachments, if any, is intended for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use or disclosure is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy the original message, including all copies.

From: Beatty, Jackie <Jackie.Beatty@ag.ks.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 2:48 PM
To: Candice Wilson [KPDC] <Candice.Wilson@ks.gov>
Subject: FW: A letter to AG on State vs. Milburn Kee case

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

We have received another complaint from a citizen in Bourbon County reference Mrs. Milburn Kee. It is at the bottom of this email from a Mr. Michael Hoyt. The attorney for this case requested I pass this on to you. Thank you and have a great rest of your day.

Respectfully,

SA Jackie Beatty

From: Higdon, Olivia <Olivia.Higdon@ag.ks.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 2:40 PM
To: Beatty, Jackie <Jackie.Beatty@ag.ks.gov>
Subject: FW: A letter to AG on State vs. Milburn Kee case

Will you go ahead and forward this on to the Kansas Public Disclosure Commission like we did with the previous comment from a concerned citizen?

Olivia Higdon | Assistant Attorney General
Office of Kansas Attorney General Kris W. Kobach
Criminal Division–Economic Crimes

120 SW 10th Avenue | Topeka, KS 66612
Office: 785-296-1946 | Fax: 785-296-6795
olivia.higdon@ag.ks.gov | www.ag.ks.gov

This communication, and any attachments, is private and confidential and for the exclusive use of the intended recipient. The information contained herein, as well as any attachments, may be confidential and privileged under the joint prosecution or investigation privilege, attorney-client privilege, work product privilege, joint defense privilege, or any other applicable privilege or immunity. If you are not the intended recipient and have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy the original message and all copies. Any unauthorized disclosure, copying, distribution, or the taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this communication is strictly prohibited. Receipt by anyone other than the intended recipient is not a waiver of any protection, privilege, or immunity. Please note also that the Kansas Open Records Act provides that public records, including correspondence to me via email, may be subject to disclosure unless otherwise protected by law.

From: Michael J. Hoyt <lawyerupva01@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 2:06 PM
To: Higdon, Olivia <Olivia.Higdon@ag.ks.gov>
Subject: A letter to AG on State vs. Milburn Kee case

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Office of The Attorney General of Kansas organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I wish to bring to your attention the disregard for the seriousness of the above subject case criminal charges, her obvious disregard for honest clean elections and the emphasis that an original precedent in the two charging statues should be made clear, stern, and a penalty to the fullest extent of the law is imperative for all of Kansas to be reassured that we have good, clean, fair, and honest elections; The State of Kansas vs. Mika Milburn Kee is AG Kobach's landmark case opportunity to make a strong no-nonsense statement that our elections are protected in the State Statutes.

Milburn Kee is working social media to present a new persona to get her past this case and or trial. I have posted the following after every soft-soap media post she has made over the last 24 - 48 hours:

Michael J. Hoyt

Mika are you running for office or attempting to script a scenario for a repeat performance of refusing to leave "your office" during the next election. If each Commissioner needs an office, I hear the basement is empty, but to object to what has taken place for 15+ years - early voting in the "multi-purpose room" we all refer to as the commission room; to reserve that room for your own purpose for a 4-week period is unprofessional and obvious attempt to justify your criminal charges or maybe sway a juror or 2. Being such a hypocrite is unbecoming. You try to minimize your criminal charges while telling the public you are doing what is in their best interest. You are confused. Your constant bully demeanor is not helping the County navigate the financial sink hole the County currently resides. Don't tell us what you think you are doing demonstrates true leadership; confess to your bully attitude that got you where you are today and start doing the things you keep telling us you are doing "looking out for the best interest of the County." You are just feeding the frenzy of Tran [what am I going to do when I get ousted by a term limit and cannot run for reelection (Hatch Act violator)]. Why would you even try to set up a similar scenario that caused your criminal charges again by attempting to reserve the Commission Room as your personal office, when voting has occurred there for many years? You can work from the library just across the street, or the executive session meeting room. or two folding tables in the atrium. The continuous bully attitude by Tran and you is not helpful to Bourbon County.

Best regards,

Michael J Hoyt