



NICOLE GALLOWAY, CPA
Missouri State Auditor

September 17, 2020

Mr. Frank Jung, General Counsel
Missouri Secretary of State's Office
600 W. Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Mr. Jung:

The recent accusations made by Liberty Alliance against the State Auditor's Office (SAO) are the latest frivolous claims by a partisan dark money group. Liberty Alliance and its affiliated groups have targeted Auditor Galloway since she assumed office in 2015. While this office is not surprised by their latest attack, the absurd nature of their fabricated claims require a dose of reality and an understanding of the facts.

This office has received 11 wide-ranging Sunshine Law requests from Liberty Alliance and its affiliated groups. Contained within these 11 broad requests were over 80 different requests for documents. As required by law, the SAO provided over 138,000 pages of records in response to these extensive requests.

As to the specific Sunshine Law response referenced from Liberty Alliance, in June 2020, we provided more than 20,000 pages of records in response to its broad request. We closed certain responsive documents as provided under state and federal law. Specifically, these records were confidential as audit workpapers and other related supportive material under sections 29.070, 610.021(17), and 610.021(14), RSMo; communications between a public governmental body and its auditor under section 610.021(17), RSMo; matters involving litigation or communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorney under section 610.021(1), RSMo; identity of individuals who have made reports of alleged improper governmental activities under sections 29.221 and 610.021(14), RSMo; and copyright protected documents under 17 U.S.C.A. Section 102. We also redacted documents as confidential under sections 29.221 and 610.021(14), RSMo.

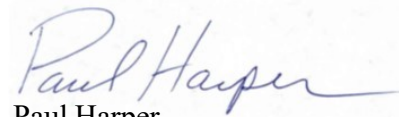
As a statewide official who has been elected by Missourians, there is nothing unusual about Auditor Galloway speaking on issues of public policy including legislation and good government initiatives, respectively. The Auditor is consistently transparent and has frequently stated her position on matters impacting Missourians including the need for more robust parental leave, dark money's corrupting influence in Jefferson City, the need to ban self-deleting apps in conducting public business, wasting taxpayer money through corporate giveaways to big businesses, and the questionable practice of state government awarding no-bid contracts.

The Auditor submitting an op-ed to a news outlet regarding legislation that was heavily debated throughout the 2019 legislative session, passed by the state legislature, and signed by the governor was not a use of tax dollars for political purposes. Liberty Alliance knows this based on the thousands of records provided to them in response to their voluminous document requests. Those records are available free of charge for anyone to review by going to <https://app.auditor.mo.gov/sunshinepostings/>.

The SAO always complies with Missouri law and statutes, and will continue to do so with the utmost transparency.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Harper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Paul Harper
General Counsel