



**GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS COMMISSION**

[www.accesskansas.org/ethics](http://www.accesskansas.org/ethics)

June 30, 2006

Dear Ad Managers:

We are writing to ask your assistance in making sure candidates and political committees use the proper disclaimer when placing advertisements with your newspaper this election year.

K.S.A. 25-4156(b)(1) requires that any paid matter which is published in a newspaper which expressly advocates the nomination, election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate for a state or local office must be followed by the word "advertisement" or the abbreviation "adv." in a separate line together with the name of the chairperson of the political or other organization inserting the same or the name of the individual who is responsible.

K.A.R. 19-20-4 clarifies whose name must appear in the disclaimer. In pertinent part the rule and regulation states:

1. If the advertisement is placed by a political committee, the chairperson's name must appear.
2. If the ad is placed by a candidate or candidate committee, the treasurer shall be listed as the responsible person.
3. If the advertisement is placed by an organization other than a political committee, candidate or candidate committee which has a chairperson, the chairperson's name must appear.
4. If the ad is placed by an organization other than a political committee, candidate, or candidate committee which does not have a chairperson, then the responsible individual listed shall be:
  - (a) The individual who is the primary funding source.
  - (b) If no individual is the primary funding source, then the individual who controlled the decision to place the ad.
  - (c) If no one individual controlled the decision, then the individual who controlled the funds.
5. If the ad is placed by an individual, that individual's name shall appear.
6. **Under no circumstances is the name of the organization alone sufficient.**

Thank you for your assistance. If we can answer any questions, don't hesitate to call our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol E. Williams".

Carol E. Williams  
Executive Director