

We the people of Maine...

THE MAINE HERITAGE POLICY CENTER

September 10, 2014

Matthew O. Gagnon
CEO, The Maine Heritage Policy Center
PO Box 7829
Portland, ME 04112

Janet T. Mills
Maine Attorney General
6 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Attorney General Mills,

On behalf of The Maine Heritage Policy Center, I write to request an immediate investigation into whether Maine Equal Justice Partners, a 501(c)3 non-profit, and Maine People's Alliance, a 501(c)4 social welfare group, have coordinated illegally to advocate for Congressman Michael Michaud's gubernatorial campaign.

On Thursday, September 4, representatives from Maine Equal Justice Partners (MEJP) and Maine People's Alliance (MPA) participated in a conference call solely to coordinate a media response to political advertisements for the benefit of a political candidate. A recording of this call has been made publicly available and can be provided to your office upon request.

I hereby ask that you investigate the following:

- Whether MEJP, or employees acting as representatives thereof, or acting privately, have used the organization's assets or resources in connection with political activities supporting a political candidate;
- Whether the "primary activity" of MPA, as defined by state statute, is in fact something other than the promotion of certain political candidates, and;
- Whether MEJP and MPA broke any laws governing political coordination between and among non-profit groups.

I respectfully request that you begin without delay an investigation into whether MEJP and MPA are in compliance with the laws governing coordination between 501(c)3 and 501(c)4 groups.

It is my belief that rule of law is imperative to a healthy democracy. I trust you will act immediately to ensure that non-profit organizations, ostensibly charged with promoting the well-being of all Mainers, are not in fact coordinating illegally for the benefit of political candidates.

Very respectfully,



Matthew O. Gagnon