

Marsha
Blackburn
For Governor

February 2, 2026

Executive Director Bill Young
Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance
WRS Tennessee Tower, 2nd Floor
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Executive Director Young,

As advised by Assistant Director Lance Frizzell on January 20, 2026, I write regarding the Marsha for Governor campaign's disclosure report due today, February 2, 2026, and to provide the Bureau with supplemental information concerning campaign contributors that the Bureau's online filing system could not accommodate. In the words of Assistant Director Frizzell, the Bureau's "system was not designed to handle such a large volume of contributions" as the campaign raised.

Soon after the campaign launched, the filing system proved unable to process the volume of contributions to the campaign. Indeed, the issue first arose in September 2025. Due to the significant number of contributions the campaign received in less than one month, it became apparent that the Bureau's filing system could not handle the volume of contribution data the campaign would need to submit.

Accordingly, on September 5, 2025, Marsha for Governor staff reached out to Bureau staff to schedule a call to discuss the concerns. A call was held with you and your staff on September 9, 2025. During that call, it was determined that the best course of action was for the campaign to continue to try to input its contribution data in the existing system, and the campaign hired additional staff to do so.

Over the course of the next four months, campaign staff remained in regular contact with Bureau staff about its data entry efforts. Yet, over that time, the Bureau's filing system became increasingly slower as the campaign entered more and more contribution data – eventually to the point where it takes over a minute for the filing system to save each individual contribution once entered.

As the filing deadline approached and it became clear the system could not support the required data entry, the campaign again contacted your staff by phone on January 20, 2026, and explained the issues. Subsequently, Assistant Director Frizzell – based on his purported discussions with you – sent an email instructing the campaign to submit an Excel spreadsheet presenting all the contribution data that could not be entered via the state's system. His email stated:

PAID FOR BY MARSHA FOR GOVERNOR - GLENN JACOBS, TREASURER

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I confirmed with our Executive Director that the file and summary page you send us when the report is due will be considered the official filing with the official numbers. Please include a letter describing our communication regarding the reason this is necessary - our system was not designed to handle such a large volume of contributions. Thank you!

Assistant Director Frizzell also added,

Just submit the report into our system at the deadline and then amend it. We'll treat the material you send separately with the actual final numbers as the filing (should we receive a press call or FOIA-type request).

Per those instructions from your office, please find attached an Excel spreadsheet with the contribution information.

The campaign has consistently and proactively sought to comply with the State's general reporting requirements and has been transparent with the Bureau about all of the technical challenges it has encountered with the State's filing system. Unfortunately, the State's filing system currently prevents full disclosure through no fault of the campaign. We hope that the system will be modernized to match modern-day campaigns and ensure Tennesseans have timely access to transparent campaign-finance data.

Respectfully submitted,



Glenn Jacobs
Treasurer, Marsha for Governor