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## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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### PRESS RELEASE

*State Ethics Commission settles Campaign Reporting Act lawsuit with the Working Families Organization, Inc.*

*Albuquerque, NM, February 13, 2023* – Today, the State Ethics Commission announces it has settled a lawsuit filed against the Working Families Organization, Inc. (WFO). On November 2, 2022, the Commission filed a civil action against the Working Families Organization, Inc to enforce the disclosure provisions of the Campaign Reporting Act. The Commission’s lawsuit alleged that WFO, doing business as “Unemployed Workers United,” violated Sections 1-19-26.4, 1-19-27.3 and 1-19-34.3 of the Campaign Reporting Act, considering a widespread text message advertising campaign seeking to influence the outcome of a New Mexico ballot question regarding the State’s Permanent School Fund. The Commission sought civil fines, injunctive relief, and an order declaring WFO’s payments “independent expenditures” as defined by the Campaign Reporting Act.

To settle this matter, WFO will file independent expenditure reports via the Secretary of State’s Campaign Finance System, pay a civil penalty of \$11,000, and agrees to comply with registration and reporting requirements in all future election cycles.

Read the settlement [here](#).

Read the Commission's complaint in *State Ethics Commission v. Working Families Organization, Inc*, D-506-CV-202200942 (2d Jud. Dist. Ct.) [here](#).

Read the Commission's press release announcing the lawsuit [here](#).

For more information about the State Ethics Commission, visit [www.sec.nm.gov](http://www.sec.nm.gov).