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September 8, 2026

Via email to:

The Honorable Adrian Fontes
Arizona Secretary of State
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Violation of Arizona Revised Statutes § 16-915 by Kris Mayes

Dear Secretary Fontes:

I write to bring to your attention a campaign finance violation committed by Kris Mayes, Democrat candidate for Attorney General.

On April 23, 2026, Ms. Mayes accepted a campaign contribution from the District 14 Democrats. The following screenshot is taken from her campaign finance report, page 1,184 of Second Quarter Report on file with your office.

100626 Kris Mayes for Arizona

Jurisdiction: Arizona Secretary of State

Quarter 2

Covers 04/01/2026 to 06/30/2026

Schedule C3c - Contributions from Parties

		Date	Amount	Cycle To Date
Name:	201200553 - D14 Democrats	04/23/2026	\$500.00	\$500.00
Address:	1141 E. Douglas Ave., Gilbert, AZ 85234		Cash	
Trans. Type:	Contributions from Parties			
Total of Contributions from Parties			\$500.00	
Total of Refunds Given			\$0.00	
Net Total of Contributions from Parties			\$500.00	

As you may know, A.R.S. § 16-915 authorizes political party committees to make contributions to the party's **nominees**. The statute does not authorize contributions to "candidates" generally or to candidates who are merely seeking nomination.

Ms. Mayes did secure the nomination of the Democrat Party for the Office of Attorney General, but that occurred at the July 21, 2026 primary election. *See* A.R.S. §

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16-311 *et seq.* (establishing the statutory process for becoming a candidate and qualifying for the ballot, and demonstrating the distinction between a candidate seeking nomination and a nominee.)

A.R.S. § 16-645 permits qualified write-in candidates to compete in a primary election. As a result, even an unopposed candidate has not definitively secured the nomination before the primary election because, at least in theory, a qualified write-in candidate could prevail.

This continues a pattern of remarkable ignorance of basic campaign finance laws shown by Kris Mayes, who, as the attorney for the State of Arizona, clearly should know better. Specifically, Ms. Mayes was apparently unaware of campaign contribution limits applicable in state law to individual contributors, as she had to refund multiple excess contributions this last cycle, as the screenshots from page 570 and 941 of her report also show:

Name:	Michaels, Laurie	04/21/2026	\$(3,000.00)	\$5,500.00
Address:	301 Commerce Street, Suite 3150, Fort Worth, TX 76102		Cash	
Occupation:	No Employer, No Employer			
Trans. Type:	Refunded Contribution			
Memo:	Refunded Excess Contribution.			
Original Date:	03/12/2026			
Original Amount:	\$5,500.00			

Name:	Levine, Susan	06/30/2026	\$(500.00)	\$0.00
Address:	4201 E. Keim dr., Paradise Valley, AZ 85253		Cash	
Occupation:	Not Employed, Not Employed			
Trans. Type:	Refunded Contribution			
Memo:	Refund of excess contributions			
Original Date:	09/30/2025			
Original Amount:	\$500.00			

It is your job to take action and refer this to the enforcement authority under A.R.S. 16-938(C)(1). However, that “enforcement authority” here is Kris Mayes. It would be highly improper to refer this matter to her. *See Horne v. Polk*, 242 Ariz. 226, 228 (2017)(noting the Attorney General’s Office referral of the campaign finance matter at issue in that case to the Yavapai County Attorney because the Attorney General was the target of the complaint and “an appearance of impropriety would arise if the Arizona Attorney General’s Office investigated the alleged campaign finance violation.”)

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Please take appropriate action, and in a timely fashion. On the last complaint I filed, against your political ally Katie Hobbs, you took **twenty-five** days simply to send an acknowledgement of receipt of the complaint. Since then I have heard nothing. I hope you act with more urgency here.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY A. LA SOTA PLC

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy La Sota". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly legible.

Timothy A. La Sota