Exhibit 2

JONATHAN WAYNE

April 15, 2025 9:59 a.m. EDT

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Remote videoconference deposition of Jonathan Wayne, a witness herein, called by the Plaintiffs for examination under the applicable rules of Federal Civil Court Procedure, taken before me, Linda D. Riffle, Registered Diplomate Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, and Certified Realtime Captioner, pursuant to notice and stipulations of counsel hereinafter set forth, on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, beginning at 9:59 a.m. EDT and concluding on the same day.

> Raymer Reporting, Inc. (513) 405-2456

STIPULATIONS

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It is stipulated by and among counsel for the respective parties that the remote videoconference deposition of Jonathan Wayne, a witness herein, called by the Plaintiffs for examination under the applicable rules of Federal Civil Court Procedure, may be taken at this time by the Court Reporter pursuant to notice; that said remote videoconference deposition may be reduced to writing in stenotype by the Court Reporter, whose notes may thereafter be transcribed out of the presence of the witness; that proof of the official character and qualification of the Court Reporter is waived; that the witness may sign the transcript of his remote videoconference deposition before a Court Reporter other than the Court Reporter taking his remote videoconference deposition; said remote videoconference deposition to have the same force and effect as though the witness had signed the transcript of his remote videoconference deposition before the Court Reporter taking it.

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JONATHAN WAYNE,

of lawful age, being by me first duly placed under oath, as prescribed by law, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION

BY MR. MILLER:

ο. Good morning, Mr. Wayne. I'm Charles I am counsel for the plaintiffs in this And we requested your deposition because matter. you filed a declaration in this matter.

I think that this deposition will be pretty short today. It's probably what I would consider sort of more of an informational deposition, I guess, just for -- I just want to make sure I understand everything that you've put in here. So this may be less, if you will, adversarial than some depositions you've had in your past experience.

- Α. Great.
- Yeah. And I assume you've been deposed ο. before?
 - Α. Yes.
- ο. Okay. All right. So you know the general process. Even though we're not in person, you know, we still are here to help our

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Also, we have to answer with words, not nods or shakes of the head or other utterances.

And with that, are you ready to get started?

- Α. Yes, I am.
- All right. Can you just briefly kind of ο. describe for me your current role, how long that you've been doing it, and your duties and responsibilities?
- Sure. I am the executive director of Α. the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. I oversee a staff of six employees at the commission, six including I have had the job since May of 2003, so mvself. I've been in the position 22 years -- or -- well, soon it will be 22 years.

And I report to a board of five commissioners who are private citizens who contribute some of their time. They generally meet monthly. So along with an assistant manager, I comanage the day-to-day activities of

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the office.

- Okay. The board you mentioned, you described them as private citizens. Are they sort of -- are they politicos, are they kind of lawyers, or are they just truly sort of public servant private citizens?
- Α. It's a mix. Some of them have political backgrounds, and some do not.
- There are, you know, some governmental organizations that are sort of, you know, what I describe as board run where they kind of are detailedly involved. There are others where a board provides more oversight and the staff sort of runs everything day-to-day. How would you describe your organization?
 - I would say the second model. Α.
- Okay. All right. And, you know, as you ο. mentioned -- 2003 is longer ago than I care to admit. And so you've been here in this role for quite some time, but -- I guess it's not too significant now, but I'm sort of curious. What was your background prior to that?
- Α. I had worked as a staff attorney for the New York City Campaign Finance Board for three And prior to that, I had -- was a junior

1 associate at a commercial litigation firm. And 2 then prior to that -- that was for two years. 3 Prior to that, I did a clerkship, a one-year 4 clerkship. And prior to that, I did a one-year 5 position with a criminal defense attorney. 6 Okay. Was the clerkship appellate or ο. 7 trial? 8 It was a state court, trial. Trial Α. 9 court. Okay. All right. And were all of those 10 ο. 11 activities in New York? 12 Well, actually, no. The -- the only Α. 13 position that was in New York of the ones I 14 mentioned was The New York City Campaign Finance 15 The other three positions were in 16 New Jersey. 17 Okay. All right. And then you moved to ο. 18 Maine and, wisely, never looked back? 19 Α. Yes. 20 Okay. All right. So what were you Q. 21 asked to do for -- for this case? 22 For the case generally? Α. 23 ο. Yes. 24 Well, our counsel made us aware that a Α. 25 motion for a --

1	Q. I'm sorry. Let me stop you. I don't
2	I'm sorry. I guess I do not mean generally
3	because, you know, you're the client in the
4	matter. So I'm not going to ask about any sort
5	of litigation strategy or anything.
6	So, I guess, let's just focus on the
7	declaration. So do you happen to have the
8	declaration in front of you?
9	A. I do.
10	Q. Okay. All right. And so we'll just
11	designate that, you know, as Exhibit 1 for this
12	deposition.
13	
13 14	 Thereupon, Wayne Deposition Exhibit 1
	Thereupon, Wayne Deposition Exhibit 1 was marked for purposes of
14	
14 15	was marked for purposes of
14 15 16	was marked for purposes of
14 15 16 17	was marked for purposes of identification.
14 15 16 17	was marked for purposes of identification BY MR. MILLER:
14 15 16 17 18	was marked for purposes of identification. BY MR. MILLER: Q. And so I guess what were you asked to do
14 15 16 17 18 19	was marked for purposes of identification. BY MR. MILLER: Q. And so I guess what were you asked to do vis-à-vis the declaration?
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	was marked for purposes of identification. BY MR. MILLER: Q. And so I guess what were you asked to do vis-à-vis the declaration? A. Well, our it was a collaborative

declaration.

Q. Okay. Go ahead.

- A. Well, you may want to get this in a subsequent question, but also I worked with a colleague of mine here at the commission on the data that is included in the declaration.
- Q. Yeah. That was actually going to be my next question as far as the data. Counsel did not prepare that; you did that internally?
- A. Correct. Counsel gave us a general idea of what he was interested in. And I assigned it to a colleague of mine to get the raw data, and I supervised her on that and -- well, I'll pause there.
- Q. Okay. All right. Let's see. As sort of the administrator, you know, of the campaign finance process, do -- as -- are you taking a position sort of on whether this particular, you know, law that was enacted, you know, by a ballot measure is wise, necessary, anything like that? Are you agnostic to that and just say it's the law and we are charged with enforcing the law?
- A. Well, when we have been sued in the past in a constitutional challenge and our office is named as a defendant, the attorney general's office takes the -- determines the position of

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the agency. So, you know, generally, you know, my understanding is when a law is duly enacted by the legislature or a citizen initiative, it's our job to administer the law. And part of that is -- usually, in the past, it's sort of being cooperative in the defense of the statute.

Does that answer your question, or have I left anything out unaddressed?

- I think that's fair. ο.
- Α. Okay.
- All right. And prior to the enactment ο. of this -- well, in the case we just call it "the act," but I think you know what I'm talking about. But prior to that, my understanding is is that the threshold for reporting contributions has been \$50; is that accurate?
 - By PACs? Α.
 - ο. Yes.
 - Α. Yes.
 - ο. To PACs.
- The reporting by PACs of their Α. contributions they have received means they have to be itemized if the amount of the contributions are above \$50.
 - And what's the rule for --All right. Q.

for candidates, candidate committees?

- A. That's the same for candidates.
- Q. All right. Is there any itemized reporting threshold in the state that is lower than \$50?
 - A. I can't think of anything.
- Q. All right. So in your declaration here, you start reporting trends starting in 2010. Do you know why you went back that far?
 - A. That was suggested to us by our counsel.
- Q. Okay. And before we get to the data,
 I'm just sort of going through the paragraphs of
 the declaration. But in Paragraph 9, you
 indicate that you separated out the spending by
 candidates that are participating in the Maine
 Clean Election Act. And I'm a bit confused why
 you did that because they could also receive the
 benefit of spending by outside committees,
 independent expenditures, correct?
- A. I don't have a clear recollection of why we did that, but I would expect that that was also a suggestion from our counsel.
- Q. Okay. All right. Let me just -- I just want to make sure that I do understand the law. Like, independent committees can decide to spend

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1 to support or oppose candidates that participate 2 in the MCEA, correct? 3 That's correct. Α. 4 Okay. And, you know, with the data that ο. 5 you provide here, largely, this is a report that simply reports on data, this is what's happened, 6 7 is what I see it. Is there -- is there anything 8 in this report that is, you know, sort of 9 qualitative versus quantitative? Do you mind if I flip through the 10 11 declaration? 12 ο. No, please do. 13 MR. BOLTON: Sorry. I was muted. Τ 14 just object to form on that question. 15 THE WITNESS: I would say the last two 16 paragraphs are not quantitative. 17 BY MR. MILLER: 18 Okay. All right. That's helpful. ο. 19 And then let's just sort of start kind of 20 going through the charts that you have here in 21 the declaration itself and just kind of let's 22 just make sure I understand what those -- those 23 are and then move on. 24 So the first chart that I see is on

Page 3 beneath Paragraph 10. Can you just

explain what that is?

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- A. I'm sorry. I missed the end of your question.
- Q. Yeah. Can you just explain what -- what is in that chart on the bottom of Page 3?
- A. Sure. Well, the chart makes references to campaign expenditures in four election years where there were races for governor. And for each one of those years, there are two vertical bars. The left-hand vertical bar that is in orange shows total independent expenditures to influence the governor's race in that calendar year.

The right hand of the two columns, which is colored in yellow and blue, shows total expenditures by the candidates for governor that year. And the yellow portion of each bar refers to expenditures by candidates for governor who were participating in the Maine Clean Election Act. And then the blue parts of the bar refer to candidates who are financing their campaigns in the traditional way by accepting traditional campaign contributions.

Q. Okay. And are you attempting to make any linkage between the candidates that decide to

- A. No, I don't believe we're -- I'm not -that wasn't my intention, no.
- Q. Okay. All right. And then the chart below Paragraph 11, that does the similar thing for legislative and county races as what just -- you described for the gubernatorial race expenditures?
- A. That's correct, except more election years are referred to there, but otherwise the same.
- Q. All right. And then as you get into PAC spending, you delineate here between single-candidate PACs and other PACs. Can you explain why you're doing that?
- A. If you'll forgive me, I just want to refer to the declaration. I'll be right with you.
 - Q. That's fine.
- A. Well, you know, when our counsel talked to us about the kinds of data he was interested in, he asked us to look at how many different races the PACs were influencing, and so we

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- Okay. And if we flip back to, I guess, Exhibit B, I guess this is the data that was used to formulate that particular section of the declaration, correct?
 - That's correct. Α.

If you will, I just want to make sure that your reporter can hear me okay.

> THE COURT REPORTER: I can.

THE WITNESS: I sometimes can get a little soft, and there's a fan -- a ventilation fan in the background. And so just let me know if you can't hear anything.

THE COURT REPORTER: I will. Thank you. BY MR. MILLER:

- ο. Your computer and microphone are working great.
- Α. Great.

Q. It's like you're in a TV studio or something. We're good.

All right. Man, I wish it was 2003; I could read this page a little better. All right.

So looking at Exhibit B, so "Committee Name," I know what that means. "Year," "Total Contributions," "Total Spending."

So let me ask about that, then. So, you know, because I see that some of these, the total contributions are less than the total spending. So what time periods are we talking about there? Is that for a biennium or a particular individual year, or what is that?

- A. Well, the -- the data was gathered by my colleague. And I -- as I look at this now, I believe that refers to -- actually, if you'll bear with me, I want to refer to the declaration for a second.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. I believe that when Lorrie compiled this information, the -- the data in the "Total Contributions" column refers to contributions received in the calendar year 2022 and most likely does not include contributions received in 2021.

1 Okay. And that would be the same for ο. 2 all three of those columns, then, the "Total 3 Contributions, " "Total Spending, " and "Total IE 4 Spending"? 5 Α. I believe so, yes. 6 All right. And then the right two ο. 7 columns, then, that's the total number of 8 contributions that exceeded \$5,000 and then the 9 total number of races that they made an independent expenditure on? 10 11 Α. Correct. 12 Okay. And the "S/O" is probably support ο. 13 or oppose? 14 Α. Yes. 15 And, I guess -- all right. So your -ο. 16 your committees in Maine, they don't necessarily 17 have to be independent expenditure only; is that 18 correct? 19 Α. No. 20 That is not correct? ο. 21 Oh, I'm sorry. That is correct. Α. 22 Okay. All right. Sorry about my ο. 23 unartfully worded question. 24 No, it's fine. Α.

And so the -- the "Total Spending"

Q.

1 column could include contributions to a 2 candidate? 3 Α. Yes. 4 And then, therefore, the number of races ο. 5 supporting or opposing, you know, theoretically could it include independent expenditures as well 6 7 as direct contributions? 8 I believe that the column of races Α. 9 supported or opposed refers only to independent 10 expenditures. 11 Okay. All right. So there are a few ο. 12 committees here, at least in 2022, that supported 13 just one candidate, if I understand this 14 correctly. So Better Maine, do you know who that 15 supported? 16 I believe we said in the declaration, Α. 17 but I'll confirm, that they supported --18 ο. Okay. Yeah, I see that. 19 -- the democratic candidate for Α. 20 governor. 21 ο. Okay. And who was that? 22 That was Janet Mills. Α. 23 ο. All right. And then -- so in your 24 general election, it's a -- is it simply -- is it

still party nominated? Is that how this happens?

Or do you have a different form of doing general elections?

- A. Candidates receive a party nomination in the primary election, and that party affiliation is -- well, actually, I don't want to say anything that I can't remember for sure. But they are -- there are candidates in the general election who have -- who are the nominees of their political party. There are also candidates who are not enrolled in any party.
 - Q. Okay.

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- A. Does that answer your question?
- Q. Yeah. So you don't use one of those -I can't think what it's called now. You don't
 use one of the open primary systems and then
 with -- or a -- what's it called in the general
 where they do the cumulative voting?

Anyway, you just sort of use a traditional voting system there, right? In the general, just whatever vote you get, you get, and you don't kind of recount?

MR. BOLTON: I'm going to object to form and foundation.

Go ahead, Jonathan.

THE WITNESS: We do have -- in case this

1	is responsive to your question, some election
2	races in Maine are affected by ranked-choice
3	voting.
4	BY MR. MILLER:
5	Q. That was the term I couldn't think of.
6	Yeah. Does that include the gubernatorial race?
7	A. I apologize. I'd rather not offer an
8	opinion on that because some of our races are
9	covered by ranked-choice voting and some are not
10	and I actually
11	Q. You don't recall which?
12	A. Correct.
13	Q. Okay. All right. That's fine.
14	All right. So, then, that's and
15	that's the the republican candidate. Okay.
16	All right. In addition to sort of
17	receiving reports and publicly reporting
18	information about the number of contributions,
19	does your organization have any other roles that
20	it plays in elections?
21	A. We administer the Maine Clean Election
22	Act Program, which is our public financing
23	program for certain state offices. We have some

nonelection roles as well.

Q.

24

- A. Are you talking specifically -- when you refer to "the act," are you referring to the -- the initiative that's being challenged here, or do you mean more generally laws relating to contribution?
- Q. I'm sorry. I meant more generally the laws.
- A. In general, we enforce contribution limits. I want to make sure I'm being responsive to your question. We also enforce disclaimer -- you know, disclaimer requirements for political communications.
- Q. Okay. Do you conduct any investigations into whether donations that are made to independent expenditure committees were solicited by a candidate?
- A. That's -- hasn't been part of our investigations in the past.
- Q. Okay. Are you aware of any incidents where there's been -- in Maine there have been accusations or suggestions that donations to a political -- excuse me -- to an independent expenditure committee were made to receive a

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1 quid pro quo from a candidate? 2 Well, if there are such guid pro guo Α. 3 arrangements occurring, those would be happening 4 behind closed doors, and I wouldn't be aware of 5 them. 6 So is that answer no? ο. 7 Α. Could you repeat the question? 8 Are you aware of any instance or ο. Yeah. 9 allegations of a contribution to an independent 10 expenditure committee being made as a 11 quid pro quo for a candidate? 12 Α. In Maine? 13 In Maine. ο. 14 Α. No. 15 Okay. Turning back to your declaration, ο. 16 Paragraph 27, which is on Page 7, discusses party 17 independent expenditures. 18 Α. Yes. 19 Is -- first, I quess, are you aware ο. 20 of -- actually, let me -- let me try this again. 21 Are contributions to parties for

independent expenditures in any way limited under Maine law?

A. I'm sorry. Could you repeat the question?

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- Yeah. ο. Are contributions to party -political parties for independent expenditures limited in any way under Maine law? No, they're not. Α.
- From your perspective, is there any ο. significant difference between a party independent expenditure and an independent expenditure from an outside committee?

MR. BOLTON: Object to form.

THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the question?

BY MR. MILLER:

- So what is the difference between ο. an independent expenditure from a party versus one from an outside committee?
- Well, they both have the same general Α. purpose, which is disclosure of a paid communication to voters to support or oppose The difference is the type of the candidates. organization doing the spending. In one case, it's a party committee, and in the other, it's another kind of political organization, such as a PAC.
- Do you view the likelihood of о. Okav. quid pro quo corruption to be greater or lesser

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Object to foundation. MR. BOLTON:

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, Mr. Miller.

It's just not something I would have an opinion I -- it's sort of about what is more probable in one case or the other, and I just don't have a basis for offering any kind of opinion on that.

BY MR. MILLER:

- Well, you've spent the past 20 years ο. collecting this data, right?
 - Α. That's correct.
- And you can either initiate or request ο. investigations if you ever come across something that you would suspect would be a guid pro guo, correct?
- Well, if -- if the situation involved a Α. violation of our law, we -- we could -- the staff could propose an investigation to the commission. But, like I said, if there are guid pro guo arrangements that are happening, I would imagine behind closed doors, then we wouldn't know about So it's not something we would typically propose an investigation about.
 - But just -- just so I understand, Yeah. Q.

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you have no reason to believe that an independent expenditure committee is more likely to be a source of quid pro quo corruption than a party committee, correct?

> Object to foundation. MR. BOLTON:

I just don't -- I'm aware THE WITNESS: that there's always a potential for guid pro guo arrangements in which government officials are taking an official act in response for a -- in return for receiving some benefit, but I don't really have a basis for saying it's more likely to involve a party committee or a PAC. It's -there's sort of always some risk, but I don't know -- have any reason to believe one is likelier than the other. I guess I just don't have an opinion on it.

- Okay. All right. Well, I promised this ο. would be short and relatively painless, and I hope I've accomplished that because I have no further questions.
- MR. MILLER: Jonathan, do you have anything?
 - Nothing from me. MR. BOLTON:
- 24 MR. MILLER: Ezra, I assume you have
- 25 nothing.

,	
1	So I would like a copy of this.
2	THE COURT REPORTER: Is regular two
3	weeks okay?
4	MR. MILLER: I would like it sooner than
5	that. I guess could I get a a rough copy at
6	some point this week?
7	THE COURT REPORTER: Yeah. I can get
8	that to you today, sure.
9	MR. MILLER: Okay. That would be great.
10	THE COURT REPORTER: And then just
11	regular on the final?
12	MR. MILLER: Can I do a one-week on
13	that?
14	THE COURT REPORTER: Sure. And did
15	anybody need a copy of the transcript or the
16	rough?
17	MR. BOLTON: I'd like a copy of the
18	final transcript. I don't need the rough.
19	THE COURT REPORTER: Okay.
20	MR. LOUVIS: Sorry. I cut out for a
21	second. I'd also like a copy of the final.
22	(Signature not waived.)
23	(Thereupon, the remote videoconference
24	deposition concluded at 10:33 a.m. EDT
25	on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.)

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                   CERTIFICATE
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3
     State of Ohio,
                                 SS:
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     County of Franklin,
5
              I, Linda D. Riffle, Registered Diplomate
6
     Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, Certified
7
     Realtime Captioner, and Notary Public in and for
     the State of Ohio, hereby certify that the
8
     foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of
     the remote videoconference deposition testimony,
9
     taken under oath on the date hereinbefore set
     forth, of Jonathan Wayne.
10
              I further certify that I am neither
     attorney or counsel for, nor related to or
11
     employed by any of the parties to the action in
     which the remote videoconference deposition was
12
     taken; and further that I am not a relative or
     employee of any attorney or counsel employed in
13
     this case, nor am I financially interested in the
     action; and further that I am not under a
14
     contract as defined in Ohio Civil Rule 28(D).
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17
                               Linda D. Riffle,
                               Registered Diplomate
18
                              Reporter, Certified
                               Realtime Reporter,
19
                               Certified Realtime
                               Captioner, and Notary
20
                               Public in and for the
                               State of Ohio
21
     My Commission Expires:
                             July 26, 2026
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24	JONATHAN WAYNE
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WORD INDEX

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