## COATES LAW FIRM, PL

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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October 12, 2016

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**RE**: DCCC Political Advertisement

This firm represents Congressman David Jolly, a 2016 candidate for United States Congress. Your station is currently airing an ad from the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee ("DCCC") that contains multiple false photoshopped images of the Congressman. Consider this as a notice that your station is currently airing a patently false advertisement concerning Congressman David Jolly. The false images appear with the word "Dramatization" on screen indicating that the DCCC intended for the doctored images to convey a false and misleading message. Simply including the word "Dramatization" does not allow an advertiser to display fraudulent images. The images in this advertisement are patently false and the advertisement must be removed from your broadcast immediately.

As you are aware, the ad is not being paid for, authorized by, nor offered by, a candidate. Therefore, the advertisement is not protected political speech by a candidate as contemplated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Nor under FCC rules, are you under any obligation to accept or air such advertisements. Rather, the advertisement contains statements by a third-party, which you are now on notice, are patently false.

You are under no legal obligation to air this advertisement. With respect to advertising material, a broadcasting licensee has a responsibility to take all reasonable measures to eliminate any false, misleading or deceptive matter. *Public Notice: Licensee Responsibility with Respect to Broadcast of False, Misleading or Deceptive Advertising*," 74 F.C.C. 2<sup>nd</sup> 628 (Nov. 7, 1961).

Please be advised should you refuse to withdraw the advertisement from on-air play as of the date of the receipt of this notice, we are prepared to pursue all legal remedies against your station for the continued airing of the deceptive and misleading ad.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Roger N. Beaubien