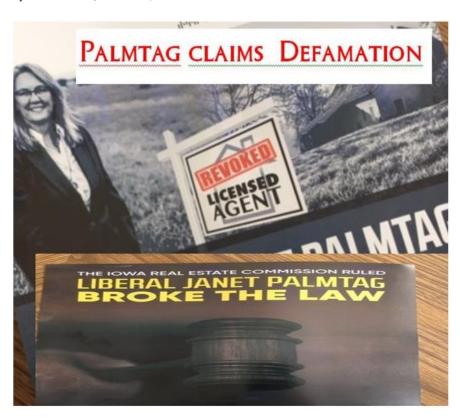


Palmtag Prepares for Legal Action, Claims Defamation by Republican Party

Domina letter demands correction to political flyers

By Dan Swanson | October 19, 2020



NEBRASKA CITY – Legislature candidate and longtime Republican Party supporter Janet Palmtag reported Monday that she is prepared to take legal action to demand the Nebraska Republican Party correct October mailers that claims Palmtag had lost her real estate license.

A press release from the Palmtag campaign, says Omaha attorney Dave Domina sent a letter to GOP chairman Dan Welch notifying him that Palmtag had never lost her license as a broker.

Palmtag: "I am initiating this legal action to set the record straight. The distortions of facts and blatant lies spread by the NEGOP and Julie Slama's campaign cannot be allowed to stand."

The press release includes confirmation from Nebraska Real Estate Commissioner Lisa Ritter that Palmtag has never lost any of the real estate licenses she holds in Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri.

According to documents provided by the Nebraska Republican Party, the Iowa Real Estate Commission lists Palmtag's license as "canceled."

Palmtag said that is because the flood of 2019 closed bridges from Omaha to St. Joseph, Mo., so she could not conduct business normally from her Nebraska City location. She says her license was changed to "inactive."

According to the Domina letter, the Republican Party "intentionally and maliciously" mailed publications to First District households making reference to Palmtag's professional status.

A mailer says Palmtag broke the law and says she "lost" her license. A visual depiction uses the word "revoked" in reference to a real estate license.

The Iowa Real Estate Commission created a case number in 2017 on allegations that Palmtag was a broker in a transaction where an improper trust account procedure occurred in Fremont County. Palmtag's real estate firm paid a \$500 fine.

After flyers were mailed out referencing the case, Palmtag explained that a real estate agent that worked for her firm omitted a signature necessary for a trust account.

The Palmtag campaign says flyers with false statements were mailed to households in the First District on two occasions in October.

Domina: "Janet Palmtag was targeted by false statements that impugn her fitness to practice her profession. The falsity is black and white. She has never lost her license as a real estate broker and has been a respected professional in Southeast Nebraska for decades."

The letter demands corrections and says Palmtag will hold the Nebraska Republican Party liable for financial damages.

The Palmtag campaign also notes that the Nebraska Public Service has twice issued a cease and desist order against the Republican Party for robocalls.