

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DIC 20461

RQ-3

January 3, 2002.

Paul Siebenaler, Treasurer Winona County Republican Committee of Minnesota RR 1 Box 37 Minneiska, MN 55910

Identification Number:

C00361048

Reference: October

October Ouarterly (1/1/00-9/30/00) and 30 Day Post-General (10/1/00-

11/27/00) Reports

Dear Mr. Siebenaler:

This letter is to inform you that as of January 2, 2002 the Commission has not received your response to our requests for additional information dated October 24, 2001. These notices request information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. To ensure compliance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act (the Act), please respond to these requests (copies enclosed).

Due to recent events, the United States Postal Service is experiencing delays in the processing and delivery of mail for the Washington D.C. area. Consequently, the Federal Election Commission is not in receipt of all incoming first-class mail. The Commission recommends that you resubmit your response to this notice and consider using alternate delivery services such as overnight delivery or delivery by courier. If feasible, your response can also be hand-delivered. You can verify the Commission's receipt of any documents submitted by your committee on the FEC website at www.FEC.gov.

An adequate response must be received at the Commission by January 23 2002. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of

the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Antoinette Kitchen on our toll-free number. (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division), our local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

John D. Gibson

Assistant Staff Director Reports Analysis Division

Enclosures

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

RQ-2

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Paul Siebenaler, Treasurer
Winona County Republican Committee
of Minnesota
RR 1 Box 37
Minneiska, MN 55910

OCT 2 4 2001

Identification Number:

C00361048

Reference:

October Quarterly Report (1/1/00-9/30/00)

Dear Mr. Siebenaler:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Political committees which have cash on hand at the time of registration must disclose the source of the funds. The balance is assumed to be composed of those contributions most recently received by the committee prior to registration. Please identify the source of these contributions on a memo Schedule A. 11 CFR §104.12

-Schedule A of your report (pertinent portion(s) attached) discloses a contribution(s) from an organization(s) which is not a political committee registered with the Commission. In order for your committee to accept contributions from unregistered organizations into accounts used to influence federal elections, your committee should take steps to insure that the contributor(s) used permissible funds to make the contribution(s) to avoid violating 2 U.S.C. §§441a(f) and 441b or 11 CFR §102.5(b). Under 11 CFR §102.5(b), organizations which are not political committees under the Act and choose to contribute to federal committees must either: 1) establish a separate account which contains only those funds permitted under the Act, or 2) demonstrate through a reasonable accounting method that the organization has received sufficient funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions in order to make the contribution.

If the contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed,

you should amend your original report with clarifying information. In addition, please clarify whether the contribution(s) received from the referenced organization(s) is permissible. To the extent that your committee has received impermissible funds, the Commission recommends that you transfer the impermissible funds to an account not used to influence federal elections or refund the impermissible amount(s) to the donor(s) in accordance with 11 CFR §103.3(b). In order to protect the donor's interests, the Commission recommends that you inform the contributor(s) in writing to provide the donor(s) with the option of receiving a refund or granting written authorization for a transfer to another account.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for the transfer-out or refund. Should you choose to transfer-out or refund the contribution(s), the Commission will presume the funds were impermissible if no statement from your committee provides information to the contrary. Transfers-out and refunds should be disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report covering the period during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, prompt action by your committee in transferring-out or refunding the amounts will be taken into consideration.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

Antoinette Kitchen Senior Reports Analyst

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Reports Analysis Division

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