



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-3

September 12, 2002

Marcus Vaden, Treasurer
 Democratic Party of Arkansas
 1300 West Capitol Avenue
 Little Rock, AR 72201

Identification Number: C00024372

Reference: May Monthly Report (4/1/02-4/30/02)

Dear Mr. Vaden:

On August 21, 2002, you were notified that a review of the above-referenced report(s) raised questions as to specific contributions and/or expenditures, and the reporting of certain information required by the Federal Election Campaign Act.

Your September 7, 2002 response is incomplete because you have not provided all the requested information. For this response to be considered adequate, the following information is still required.

-Schedule A supporting Line 15 of your report discloses a payment(s) from a federal candidate committee(s) for goods and/or services provided by your committee. 11 CFR §100.7(a)(1)(iii)(A) states that "...the provision of any goods or services without charge or at a charge which is less than the usual and normal charge for such goods or services is a contribution." Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, membership lists and mailing lists. The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as "...the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution". The usual and normal charge for services is defined as "...the hourly or piecework charge for the services at a commercially reasonable rate prevailing at the time the services were rendered." 11 CFR §100.7(a)(1)(iii)(B)

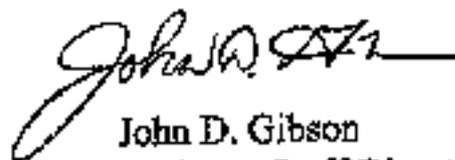
Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided to the federal candidate committee(s) and explain the steps your committee took in determining the

amount(s) charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at less than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is considered to be an in-kind contribution by your committee to the federal candidate committee(s) and is subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §441a. (11 CFR §100.7(a)(1)(iii)(A))

An adequate response must be received at the Commission by October 2, 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 (to include statements, designations and reports) 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 should have any questions related to this matter, please contact Nicholas Ebinger on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or our local number (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,



John D. Gibson
Assistant Staff Director
Reports Analysis Division

