



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

March 3, 2004

RQ-2

Jeffrey J. DiSantis, Treasurer
Georgia Federal Elections Committee
1100 Spring Street, Suite 710
Atlanta, GA 30309

Response Due Date:
April 2, 2004

Identification Number: C00041269

Reference: Year End Report (7/1/03-12/31/03)

Dear Mr. DiSantis:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your 2003 Mid-Year Report. Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-The totals listed on Lines 6(c), 7, 11(a)(iii), 11(d), 18(a), 18(c), 19, 20, 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), 21(c), 31 and 32, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

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You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2))
The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-Schedule A of your report discloses one or more in-kind contributions totaling \$2,416 from Delta Airlines, which appears to be a corporation(s). 2 U.S.C. §441b(a) prohibits the receipt of contributions from corporations unless made from a separate segregated fund established by the corporation.

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If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information.

If you have received a prohibited contribution(s), you may have to make a refund. If within 30 days of receipt you (1) transferred the prohibited amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund, you may retain the contribution in an account not used to influence federal elections. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 30 days of receipt, the prohibited amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR §103.3(b)(1).

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. In addition, any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on 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 a prohibited contribution, prompt action by your committee to transfer-out or refund the amount will be taken into consideration.

-Your report discloses memo Schedule A's totaling \$11,844 from the GA Party Victory Fund, which appears to be a joint fundraising committee. However, there are no corresponding transfers-in from this committee disclosed on Schedule A for supporting Line 12 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please clarify this apparent discrepancy.

-Schedule A supporting Line 15 of the Detailed Summary Page discloses a refund(s) or rebate(s) of what appears to be a previously disclosed allocable expense(s) from Bank of America, United States Treasury and GE Capital Corp.. Please be advised that when a committee receives a refund or rebate of an allocable expense, it must be allocated between the federal and non-federal accounts according to the same allocation ratio used to allocate the original disbursement. Furthermore, the federal account must transfer the non-federal portion to the non-federal account and disclose this transfer-out on Schedule H4. Your report does not appear to disclose a transfer-out of the non-federal portion of this refund(s) or rebate(s). Please provide clarification regarding this apparent omission.

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-The Detailed Summary Page, on Line 18(a) Column A of your report, discloses \$86,579.08 in transfers from the non-federal account for allocated activity for the reporting period. However, Line 21 (a)(ii) Column A discloses \$80,148.13 as the non-federal share for allocated activity for the reporting period. While the non-federal account is permitted to transfer funds to the federal account for allocated activity, transfers for allocated activity must be made within a 70-day time period: no more than 10 days before or 60 days after the payment to the vendor. 11 CFR §§106.6(e)(2) and 106.7(f)(2) Please clarify the nature of the transfers-in from the non-federal account.

The Commission recommends that you immediately transfer back to the non-federal account, the total excessive amount which was received by your federal account outside the 70-day time period. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-On Schedule H4, your allocated activity or event year-to-date total calculations for the administrative category are incorrect. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for administrative, voter drive and exempt activity costs are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for each separate category. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for fundraising and direct candidate support activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a category or event to the previous event year-to-date total for that category or event. This running event year-to-date total should be disclosed after each disbursement is listed. Please amend your report by providing the correct event year-to-date totals.

-On Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of the Detailed Summary Page, you have failed to include the purpose for several joint expenditures to various vendors. Note that the activity or event identifier is not considered an adequate description of purpose. Please amend your report to include this missing information.

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "reimbursement." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

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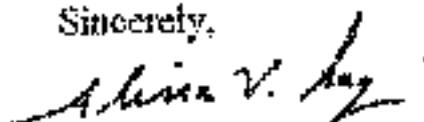
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-Schedule H4 of your report discloses a total of \$2,879.34 in payments made to credit card companies; however, the sum of the memo entries provided identifying the original vendors associated with these payments total \$6,578.02. Please amend your report to clarify this apparent discrepancy.

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. 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 regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1153.

Sincerely,



Alissa V. Sagri
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

