

ETEXT ATTACHMENT

01/23/2003 17:34

This is filed in response to the letter dated January 8, 2003 sent by the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") to the Hewlett-Packard Company PAC ("the PAC") regarding contributions made by the PAC to the Gordon Smith for U.S. Senate Committee. According to the letter, the PAC exceeded the contribution limit in connection with the 2002 general election. In calculating the amount contributed by the PAC to the Committee, the Commission included a contribution in the amount of \$2,000.00 made by the PAC to the Committee on January 28, 1997. That contribution was designated on the Committee's 1997 Mid-Year Report as being made in connection with the general election, but did not specify which general election. That contribution was, in fact, made in connection with the 1996 general election and was made to help retire the Committee's debt remaining from the 1996 general election. The PAC inadvertently omitted from the report the notation that the contribution was made for 1996 general election debt retirement. The PAC is sending to the Commission an amendment to its 1997 Mid-Year Report in which the January 28, 1997 contribution is correctly designated for 1996 general election debt retirement. With the proper designation for the 1996 general election, the amount contributed by the PAC to the Committee in connection with the 2002 general election is within statutory limits. Since the original report was filed on paper, the amendment to the 1997 Mid-Year Report is being filed on paper and is being sent under separate cover.