



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

April 8, 2014

MICHELE HYNDMAN, TREASURER
VIRGIN ISLANDERS FOR PLASKETT
PO BOX 26502
CHRISTIANSTED, VI 00824

Response Due Date
05/13/2014

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00528182

REFERENCE: YEAR-END REPORT (10/01/2013 - 12/31/2013)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 5 item(s):

1. Commission Regulations require that a committee discloses the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in an election cycle. (11 CFR § 104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name (initials for first or last name are not acceptable), complete mailing address, occupation, and name of employer. (11 CFR § 100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

The following employer and occupation entries appear on your report and are not considered acceptable: "Blank/Attorney," "Blank/Blank," "Blank/Business Management," "Blank/Business Owner," "Blank/Developer," "Blank/Insurance Broker," "Blank/Money Manager," "Blank/Realtor," and "Self Employed/Money Manager."

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

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of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)) See 11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)(B) for examples of acceptable statements regarding the requirements of federal law.

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 requests 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 should 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 amend your report to 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.

2. On Schedule B supporting Line 17 of your report, you have itemized disbursements for which you have failed to include the address. Please amend your report to include the missing information. (11 CFR § 104.3(b)(4))

3. Schedule B of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for the following disbursement(s): "Change for Bar," "Marco Promotional Items - CCR," "Parade/soup sale," "Permits," "Radio Station ads," "Reimbursement," "Reimbursement - Meeting Lunch," "Reimbursement - St. Croix Avis (VI-PR Advertisement)," "Reimbursement for tarts & Tripp Stipend," "Soup Sale," and "WSTA/Sunny/CC/WSTX Crime." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in an election cycle, a memo entry including the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend

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your report to include the missing information on Schedule B and clearly identify each memo entry supporting a reimbursement. If itemization is not necessary, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. (11 CFR §§ 104.3(b)(4)(i) and 104.9, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3)

4. Schedule B of your report discloses disbursements with the purpose "Cash for Kevin Rodriguez to travel to STT," and "Reimbursement for tarts & Tripp stipend" that appear to be made from petty cash. Please be advised that cash disbursements to any person or vendor for any single purchase or transaction may not exceed \$100. If payments to the original vendor exceed \$200 in an election cycle, a memo entry including the name of the original vendor as well as address, date, amount, and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information or provide clarifying information if memo items are not required. (2 U.S.C. §432(h)(2) and 11 CFR § 102.11)

5. Schedule B of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for the following travel-related disbursement(s): "DC Airfare," and "NYC & STX Airfares Reimbursement." When the reimbursement amount to individuals for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by staff to any one vendor that make up the reimbursement may have to be itemized. For example, if the related payments to any one vendor aggregate in excess of \$200 for the election cycle, the staff advance payment to the vendor must also be itemized in a memo entry for that reimbursement. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount, and detailed purpose of the advance. If itemization is not necessary for a particular reimbursement to staff in excess of \$500, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. Please amend your report to include the missing or clarifying information. See Advisory Opinion 1996-20 for additional clarification. (11 CFR § 104.9)

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. 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. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

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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 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1132.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Chris Jones
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division