

RQ-2

June 3, 2014

ADOLPHO BIRCH, TREASURER GRIDIRON-PAC 345 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10154

Response Due Date 07/08/2014

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00451153

REFERENCE: APRIL QUARTERLY REPORT (01/01/2014 - 03/31/2014)

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 2 item(s):

1. Schedule A (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appears to be from a corporation(s). Please be advised that 2 U.S.C. §441b(a) prohibits the receipt of contributions from corporations unless made from a separate segregated fund established by the corporation. Limited liability companies (LLCs) that choose to be treated as corporations under the Internal Revenue Service rules, or have shares that are traded publicly, are considered corporations. In the event that the LLC is treated as a partnership under IRS rules, the aforementioned contributions are to be attributed to each member in direct proportion to his or her share of the LLC's profit or by agreement of its members. Each member who has contributed in excess of \$200 for the calendar year should be identified by name, address, amount of contribution, name of employer, occupation and aggregate total on Schedule A. (11 CFR §110.1(g)(1) through (5))

If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. The Commission notes the memo text attached to your report stating "The National Football League donated .5 hours of professional staff time (valued at approximately \$158.91) in this reporting period with respect to PAC activities such as fundraising and decision making about contributions. The National Football League also donated 1 hour of administrative staff time (valued at approximately \$63.84) in this reporting period with respect to PAC

#### **GRIDIRON-PAC**

Page 2 of 4

activities such as fundraising and decision making about contributions. Finally, all of the services, with respect to PAC activities such as fundraising and decision making about contributions, that the National Football League donated to the PAC for the period of January 1, 2014 through March 31, 2014 took place from February 28, 2014 through March 31, 2014."

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. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1))

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly 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.

2. Schedule B supporting Line 23 discloses one or more contributions to a candidate(s) for the 2014 Primary election; however, the funds were disbursed after the election date(s) (see attached). Please note that contributions may not be designated for an election which has already occurred unless the funds are to be used to reduce a candidate committee's debts incurred during that election campaign. (11 CFR §§110.1(b)(3) and 110.2(b)(3))

If any apparently impermissible contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If the contribution(s) in question should have been designated for debt retirement, you should amend your report to indicate "debt retirement," along with the year of election.

If you have made an impermissible contribution, you must request a refund or

### **GRIDIRON-PAC**

Page 3 of 4

provide a written authorization for a redesignation of the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR §110.2(b) within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt.

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations were not met within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt, your committee must obtain a refund. (11 CFR §103.3(b) (1) and (3))

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly in writing and provide a photocopy of the refund or redesignation request sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memo entries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. (11 CFR §110.1(b))

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this impermissible activity, your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

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.

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) 694-1157.

**GRIDIRON-PAC** 

Page 4 of 4

Sincerely,

Laura Sinram

Sr. Campaign Finance & Reviewing Analyst

Jaura & Sirrain

Reports Analysis Division

221

# Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions GRIDIRON-PAC (C00451153)

## **Contribution from Possible Prohibited Entity**

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
National Football League	3/31/14	\$1,000.00	2014 April Quarterly

### **Contributions Made After Election Date**

Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Election (State-Date)
GUTIERREZ FOR CONGRESS	3/31/14	\$1,500.00	P2014	IL - 3/18/14
ROBIN KELLY FOR CONGRESS	3/31/14	\$1,500.00	P2014	IL - 3/18/14