RQ-2

November 5, 2012

FREDERICK A. HODNETT JR, TREASURER POWELL FOR CONGRESS 421 BRANCHWAY ROAD RICHMOND, VA 23235

Response Due Date 12/10/2012

**IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00497289** 

REFERENCE: JULY QUARTERLY REPORT (04/09/2012 - 06/30/2012)

## Dear Treasurer:

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. 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 8 item(s):

- 1. The beginning cash balance of this report does not equal the ending balance of your 12-Day Pre-Convention Report. Please correct this discrepancy and amend all subsequent reports that may be affected by the correction. (2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(1) and 11 CFR § 104.3(a)(1))
- **2.** Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions that appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act (see attached).

An individual or a political committee other than an authorized committee or qualified multi-candidate committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,500 per election. An authorized committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,000 per election. A qualified multi-candidate committee and all affiliated committees may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$5,000 per election. The term "contribution" includes any gift, subscription, loan, advance, or deposit of money or anything of value made by any person for the purpose of influencing any election for federal office. (2 U.S.C. § 441a(a) and (f); 11 CFR § 110.1(b), (e) and (k))

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information. If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the excessive amount.

Page 2 of 6

Excessive contributions may be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive portions are properly redesignated or reattributed. Guidelines for each option are provided below.

For reattributions, excessive contributions from individuals can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount is properly reattributed to another person. Please note that reattributions only apply to excessive contributions from individuals. An excessive contribution is considered properly reattributed if (1) the contributors provide the committee with written documentation, signed by each contributor, authorizing a reattribution and indicating the amount of the contribution to be attributed to each contributor; or (2) the committee reattributes by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution if the contribution was made on a written instrument from a joint account and was signed by only one of the account holders. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributors in writing within 60 days of receiving the contribution that the committee intends to reattribute the excessive portion and must give the contributor an opportunity to request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(k)(3)(ii)(B))

For redesignations, the funds can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount is properly redesignated for a different election. excessive contribution is considered properly redesignated if (1) the committee obtains signed written documentation from the contributor(s) authorizing the redesignation of the contribution for another election, provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election; or (2) your committee redesignates by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution for another election provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributor of the redesignation in writing within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt of the The notification must give the contributor an opportunity to contribution. request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(5)(ii)(B)) Please note that you cannot presumptively redesignate an excessive contribution from a multi-candidate Also, a contribution can only be redesignated to a previous committee. election to the extent that the contribution does not exceed the committee's net debts outstanding for that election. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(3)(i))

If the foregoing conditions for reattributions or redesignations are not met within 60 days of receipt of the contribution, the excessive amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR § 103.3(b)(1).

Page 3 of 6

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide photocopies of any refund checks and/or letters reattributing or redesignating the contributions in question. Refunds are reported on Line 20(a), (b), or (c), as applicable, of the Detailed Summary Page and on a supporting Schedule B of the report covering the period in which they are made. Redesignations and reattributions are reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period in which the authorization for the redesignation and/or reattribution is received. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(2), (3) and (4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of excessive contributions, your prompt action to refund, redesignate, and/or reattribute the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

**3.** Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions received after the date of the convention that are designated for the convention. These contributions may only be accepted to the extent that the committee has net debts outstanding from the convention election. For more information on how to calculate net debts outstanding, please see page 25 of the Campaign Guide for Congressional Candidates and Committees, which is available online at http://www.fec.gov/pdf/candgui.pdf. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(3)(i))

A contribution is considered made when the contributor relinquishes control over the contribution. A contributor shall be considered to have relinquished control over the contribution when it is delivered to the candidate, when it is delivered to an authorized committee of the candidate, or to an agent of an authorized committee of the candidate. A contribution that is mailed to any of the aforementioned recipients will be considered made on the date of the postmark. Envelopes should be retained for the committee's records. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(6))

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

If a contribution exceeds the amount of net debts outstanding from the convention election, you may have to refund or redesignate the contribution.

The funds can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount was properly redesignated for a different election. An excessive contribution is considered properly redesignated if (1) the committee obtains signed written

Page 4 of 6

documentation from the contributor(s) authorizing the redesignation of the contribution for another election provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election, or (2) the committee redesignates by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution for another election provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributor of the redesignation in writing within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution. The notification must give the contributor an opportunity to request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(5)(ii)(B))

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations are not met within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR § 103.3(b)(3).

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide photocopies of any refund checks and/or letters redesignating the contributions in question. Refunds are reported on Line 20(a), (b) or (c), as applicable, of the Detailed Summary Page and on a supporting Schedule B of the report covering the period in which they are made. Redesignations are reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period in which the authorization for the redesignation is received. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(2), (3) and (4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of excessive contributions, your prompt action to refund or redesignate the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

**4.** Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions from an organization(s), which is not a political committee registered with the Commission (see attached). In order for your committee to accept contributions from unregistered organizations, your committee should take steps to ensure that the contributor(s) used permissible funds to make the contribution(s) to avoid violating 2 U.S.C. §§441a(f) and 441b or 11 CFR §102.5(b). Under 11 CFR §102.5(b), organizations which are not political committees under the Act and choose to contribute to federal committees must either: (1) establish a separate account which contains only those funds permitted under the Act, or (2) demonstrate through a reasonable accounting method that the organization has received sufficient funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions in order to make the contribution.

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

Page 5 of 6

information. In addition, please clarify whether the contribution(s) received from the referenced organization(s) is permissible.

If you have received prohibited contributions, you must make a refund. (11 CFR § 103.3(b)(1)) The refund must be made within 30 days of the treasurer becoming aware of the illegality of the contribution. (11 CFR § 103.3(b)(2))

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of any refund checks. Refunds must be reported on a Schedule B supporting Line 20(b) of the report covering the period in which the refund was made. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, your prompt action to refund the prohibited amount will be taken into consideration.

**5.** Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why each disbursement was made. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line 17 of your report to clarify the following descriptions: "compensation," "consulting," "consulting fees," and "political consulting." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursement, please refer to 11 CFR 104.3(b)(4)(i)(A).

Additional clarification regarding inadequate purposes of disbursement published in the Federal Register is available on the FEC website at www.fec.gov/law/policy/purposeofdisbursement/inadequate\_purpose\_list\_350 7.pdf. A non-exhaustive list of acceptable purposes is also available on the FEC website at http://www.fec.gov/rad/pacs/documents/ExamplesofAdequate Purposes.pdf.

- **6.** Schedule B supporting Line 17 of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for expenses other than travel and subsistence. 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 your report to include the missing information or provide clarifying information if memo items are not required. (11 CFR §§ 104.3(b)(4)(i) and 104.9, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20)
- 7. Schedule C of your report fails to include information required by

Page 6 of 6

Commission regulations. With every report submitted, you must provide the date incurred, the original source and amount of the loan, the due date, the interest rate, the cumulative payment, and the outstanding balance. In addition, if there are any endorsers or guarantors, their mailing address, along with the name of their employer and occupation, must be disclosed. Please amend your report to include the due date for the following loan: "Wayne Powell." (11 CFR §§ 100.52(a), 100.52(b) and 104.3(d))

**8.** Commission Regulations require the continuous reporting of all outstanding loans. This report omits the loan(s) itemized on your previous report(s). Please amend your report(s) to indicate the current status of the following loan(s): "E. Wayne Powell." (11 CFR §§ 104.3(d) and 104.11)

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) 694-1138.

Sincerely,

Carolina Cavano

Campaign Finance Analyst Reports Analysis Division

# Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions Powell for Congress (C00497289)

# **Excessive Contributions from Individuals**

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Election
Rice, Nancy Angland	6/26/2012	\$2,500.00	G2012
Rice, Nancy Angland	6/28/2012	\$2,500.00	G2012

# **Contributions from Unregistered Organizations**

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Election
Hanover County Democratic Committee	5/25/2012	\$1,000.00	P2012