

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

September 12, 2008

Helen Fullinwider, Treasurer Team America PAC 501 Church Street, #315 Vienna, VA 22180

Response Due Date: October 14, 2008

Identification Number: C00396291

Reference:

July Monthly Report (6/1/08-6/30/08)

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 7 items:

Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the 1. 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.

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 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.

- 2. The identification of each contributor, including an adequate occupation and name of employer for each, must be provided if the person has contributed in excess of \$200 in the aggregate during the calendar year. Please amend Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) for each entry inadequately identified as "programmer/Programmer", "civil engineer/self", "Administrator/UNAVAILABLE", "md/UNAVAILABLE" and "security bonds/UNAVAILABLE".
- 3. Schedule A of your report discloses an aggregate year-to-date total(s) for a contribution(s) received from Jennie Baadsgaard which appears to be incorrect. Please amend your report to provide the correct aggregate year-to-date total(s).
- 4. Schedule A supporting Line 17 of your report discloses a payment from "RMLC". It appears this receipt was for goods and/or services provided by your committee. Pursuant to Advisory Opinion 1979-18, the sale/purchase price paid to a political committee could involve the receipt of a contribution from a purchaser if the purchase price exceeds the "usual and normal charge". The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution. Examples of goods

and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, advertising services, membership lists, and mailing lists. 11 CFR §100.52(d)(1) and (2)

Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided and explain the steps your committee took in determining the amount charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at more than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is considered to be an in-kind contribution received by your committee from a corporation and is prohibited subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §441b(a)

5. Schedule B of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 2 U.S.C. §441a(a) prohibits a committee and its affiliates from making contributions to another political committee and its affiliates in excess of \$5,000 per calendar year.

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

If you have made an excessive contribution, you must notify the recipient and request a refund of the amount in excess of \$5,000. The refund of the excessive amount must be made within sixty (60) days of receipt of the contribution.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of the refund 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.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the excessive contribution(s), your prompt action in obtaining a refund will be taken into consideration.

6. Schedule A of your report discloses apparent earmarked contributions totaling \$1,745.00, with \$4,869.00 in corresponding entries on Schedule B. Pursuant to 11 CFR §110.6(c)(1)(v), all earmarked contributions that have passed through a conduit's account must be itemized on the receipt (Schedule A) and disbursement (Schedule B) schedules, regardless of amount. All earmarked contributions that have been forwarded in the form of the contributor's check or written instrument must be itemized as memo entries on the receipt (Schedule A) and disbursement (Schedule B)

schedules, regardless of the amount, <u>see attached reporting example</u>. Please amend your report to clarify these discrepancies.

- 7. Pursuant to 11 CFR §110.6(c), all earmarked contributions, that have passed through a conduit's account, must be itemized on the receipt (Schedule A) and disbursement (Schedule B) schedules, regardless of the amount. Please identify the original contributors for earmarked contributions made and disclosed on Schedule B.
- -Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions to federal candidates should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 23 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing.

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) 694-1141.

Sincerely.

Daniel T. Buckley

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Report
ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS FOR BETTER			2008 July
GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE	06/11/2008	\$2,000.00	Monthly Report
ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS FOR BETTER			2008 July
GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE	06/27/2008	\$4,000.00	Monthly Report
ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS FOR BETTER			2008 July
GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE	06/30/2008	\$125.00	Monthly Report



Solicitation Costs for Earmarked Contributions

If a committee's solicitation is coordinated with the recipient campaign or its agents, then the direct costs of the solicitation constitute in-kind contributions to the named candidates. If the solicitation is not coordinated, however, the costs will be considered an independent expenditure. AO 2003-23 and 100.16.

Effect on Unregistered Organization

An unregistered organization acting as a conduit should be aware that conduit activity could result in contributions by the organization if it exercises direction or control over earmarked contributions or if solicitation costs for earmarked contributions result in in-kind contributions to candidates. Such contributions may trigger registration and reporting requirements. 100.5(a)—(c).

Report Filed with the Government

Registered Political Committee

A political committee acting as a conduit must include information on an earmarked contribution on its next regularly scheduled FEC report. 110.6(c) (1)(ii).

Unregistered Entity

An individual or other unregistered entity acting as a conduit must disclose information on an earmarked contribution in a letter to the FEC within 30 days after forwarding the earmarked contribution. I 10.6(c)(1)(ii).

3. Forwarding Earmarked Contributions

A conduit must forward an earmarked contribution, along with a transmittal report (see below), to the recipient candidate committee within 10 days of receiving the contribution. 102.8(a) and (c); 110.6(c) (1)(iii).

4. Reporting Conduit Activity

A conduit discloses information on earmarked contributions on two reports.

Report for Recipient Candidate Committee

A conduit must provide a transmittal report to the recipient candidate committee when it forwards an earmarked contribution.

110.6(c)(1)(i).

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federal political committee	C _.		1	
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