

RQ-2



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

December 22, 2004

P. James Nicholson, Treasurer
Maine Republican Party
76 Silver Street
Waterville, ME 04901

Response Due Date:
January 21, 2005

Identification Number: C00003111

Reference: 12 Day Pre-General Report (10/1/04 - 10/13/04)

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

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. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

- The totals listed on Lines 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), and 32, Column B of the Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.
- On Schedules H4 and B supporting Lines 21(a) and 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page, you have not included the full name and/or mailing address for several vendors listed. Please amend your report accordingly.
- On Schedule H4, your allocated activity or event year-to-date total calculations for "Benson Event 2004" are incorrect. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for administrative, voter drive and exempt activity costs are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for each separate category. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for fundraising and direct candidate support activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a

category or event to the previous event year-to-date total for that category or event. This running event year-to-date total should be disclosed after each disbursement is listed. Please amend your report by providing the correct event year-to-date totals.

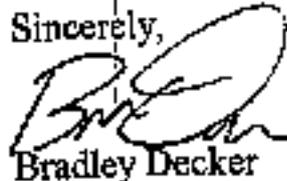
-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedules H4 of your report to clarify the following descriptions: "expense reimbursement", "joint activity", "operating expense", and "Benson Event 2004." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment for "voter list enhancement" which appears to be disclosed on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Please be advised that Voter Identification, Generic Campaign and Get-out-the-vote activity conducted in connection with an election in which one or more candidates for Federal office appear on the ballot is considered to be Federal Election Activity. 11 CFR §100.24 Please amend your report to properly disclose this activity on Line 30(b) or provide clarification regarding this activity.

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. 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.

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) 694-1301.

Sincerely,



Bradley Decker
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

