

RQ-2



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

October 6, 2004

Michael Lux, Treasurer  
21st Century Democrats  
1311 L Street NW #300  
Washington, DC 20005

**Response Due Date:**  
**November 5, 2004**

Identification Number: C00230342

Reference: August Monthly Report (7/01/04-7/31/04)

Dear Mr. Lux:

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:

-Schedule B supporting Line 23 of your report discloses one or more contributions to a candidate(s) for the 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.

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 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.

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Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately 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.

-Schedule A supporting Line 17 of your report discloses a payment from Names in the News. 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)

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "Direct Mail Processing", "Telemarketing Expense", "Direct Mail Postage" and "Direct Mail Production" on Schedule(s) B. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B or E supporting Lines 23 or 24 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

-On Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of the Detailed Summary Page, you have failed to include the purpose for the payment made to Delancy Printing. Note that the activity or event identifier is not considered an adequate description of purpose. Please amend your report to include this missing information.

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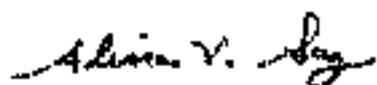
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-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "2188 East Mail #P", "65 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue", "710.15" and "Discount". For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

**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) 694-1153.

Sincerely,



Alissa V. Sagri  
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division

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Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Election State - Date
HERSETH FOR CONGRESS	7/6/04	\$200.00	P2004	SD - 06/01/2004
HERSETH FOR CONGRESS	7/6/04	\$200.00	P2004	SD - 06/01/2004
HERSETH FOR CONGRESS	7/6/04	\$244.68	P2004	SD - 06/01/2004

