



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

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

MAR 7 2001

Identification Number: C00003111

Reference: Amended October Quarterly Report (7/1/00-9/30/00), dated 10/17/00

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-The totals listed on Lines 22 and 28(a), 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.

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the 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 information. 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.

-Please amend your report by providing the purpose of disbursement and address for each disbursement itemized on Schedules B and H4 supporting Lines 21(b) and 21(a).

-Schedules B and H4 supporting Lines 21(b) and 21(a) discloses payments to Bush 2000/Spalding for *Vic. 2000 Campaign exp.* Please amend your report to clarify the ultimate payee of these disbursements.

-Lines 21(a)(i) and 21(a)(ii) of the Detailed Summary Page of your report discloses a total of \$123,492.33 for the Federal Share of Operating Expenditures and \$136,699.13 for the Non-Federal Share of Operating Expenditures. The sum of the entries itemized on Schedule H4, however, indicates the total to be \$123,505.04, Federal Share and \$163,751.01, Non-Federal Share. Please amend your report to clarify this discrepancy.

-Your EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE calculations for Administrative/Voter Drive are incorrect. EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals for administrative and voter drive costs are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for the whole Administrative/Voter Drive category. EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals for fundraising, direct candidate support, and exempt 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 Schedule(s) B and H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): *Event Cost, Special Events Expense, Vic. 2000 Campaign Exp., Expenses, 941 Deposit and ME Event Cost*. For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

-Please clarify all expenditures made for *Advertising* on Schedule(s) H4. 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, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

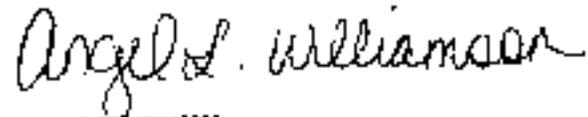
-Your report disclosed certain categories of financial activity that have been reflected on the wrong lines of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions from political committees and transfers from affiliated/other party committees should be properly disclosed on separate Schedules A, supporting Lines 11(c) and 12 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions contained on the forms to determine the proper categorization when preparing your next filing.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports

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MAINE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angel L. Williamson".

Angel L. Williamson  
Reports Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division

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