



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

February 24, 2016

HERB BARAF, TREASURER
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RHEUMATOLOGY
(RHEUMPAC)
2200 LAKE BOULEVARD NE
ATLANTA, GA 30319

Response Due Date
03/30/2016

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00432823

REFERENCE: YEAR-END REPORT (07/01/2015 - 12/31/2015)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report 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 2 item(s):

1. Schedule A discloses the receipt of funds from your connected organization totaling \$228.04. The Act prohibits the receipt of funds from national banks, corporations, and labor organizations. However, a separate segregated fund may be reimbursed for any solicitation or other administrative expense provided that the reimbursement is made no later than thirty days after the expense was paid by the separate segregated fund. (52 U.S.C. §30118 (formerly 2 U.S.C. §441b) and 11 CFR §114.5(b)(3))

If the contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with the clarifying information. Please provide further clarifying information regarding the date(s) on which the committee made payments for any solicitation or other administrative expenses.

To the extent that the reimbursement was made beyond thirty days after the expense was paid, you may have to make a refund. If within 30 days of receipt you (1) transferred the prohibited amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to your connected organization of the option of receiving a refund, you may retain the contribution in an account not used to influence federal elections. Any request from your connected organization for a refund must be honored.

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If the foregoing conditions for transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 30 days of receipt, the prohibited amount must be refunded. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1))

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly in writing and provide a copy of your check for any transfer out or refund. In addition, any transfer out or refund made should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report covering the date on which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of a prohibited contribution, prompt action by your committee to refund or transfer out the amount will be taken into consideration.

2. Schedule B of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. Please be advised that 52 U.S.C. §30116(a) (formerly 2 U.S.C. §441a(a)) prohibits a multicandidate committee and its affiliates from making a contribution to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$5,000 per election.

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

If any contribution you made exceeds the limits, you must request a refund of the excessive amount 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 of the excessive amount.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly 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))

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Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the excessive contribution(s), your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1) and (3))

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) 694-1169.

Sincerely,



Kevin Fortkiewicz
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

**Impermissible, Excessive, and Prohibited Contributions
American College of Rheumatology (RheumPAC) (C00432823)**

Excessive Contributions to a Committee/Candidate Committee				
Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Report
Bennet For Colorado	12/16/13	\$2,500.00	*P2016	2013 Year-End
Bennet For Colorado	3/25/14	\$1,000.00	*P2016	2014 April Quarterly
Bennet For Colorado	6/25/14	\$1,500.00	P2016	2014 July Quarterly
Bennet For Colorado	4/14/15	\$2,500.00	P2016	2015 Mid-Year
Bennet For Colorado	4/14/15	-\$2,500.00	P2016	2015 Year-End
Bennet For Colorado	12/14/15	\$2,500.00	P2016	2015 Year-End

*Schedule B of your report discloses this contribution as designated to the 2014 Primary election; however, this candidate did not participate in a Primary election in 2014. Therefore, this contribution has been attributed to the next scheduled Federal election for this candidate, the 2016 Primary (11 CFR §110.2(b)(ii)).