

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

February 11, 2015

NATE SCHOTT, TREASURER JOE CARR FOR SENATE PO BOX 192 LASCASSAS, TN 37085

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00541904

Response Due Date 03/18/2015

REFERENCE: OCTOBER QUARTERLY REPORT (07/19/2014 - 09/30/2014)

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. An adequate response must be received at the Senate Public Records Office by the response date noted above. 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 <u>4</u> item(s):

1. Schedule A of your report indicates that your committee may have failed to file one or more of the required 48-hour notices regarding "last minute" contributions received by your committee after the close of books for the 2014 12 Day Pre-Primary Report (see attached). Please be advised that Senate committees are required to file 48-hour notices with the Senate Public Records Office.

A principal campaign committee must notify the Commission, in writing, within 48 hours of any contribution of 1,000 or more received between two and twenty days before an election. These contributions are then reported on the next report required to be filed by the committee. To ensure that the Commission is notified of last minute contributions of 1,000 or more to your campaign, it is recommended that you review your procedures for checking contributions received during the aforementioned time period. The failure to file 48-hour notices may result in civil money penalties or legal enforcement action. (11 CFR § 104.5(f))

If any contribution of \$1,000 or more was incorrectly reported, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information.

2. Your report fails to provide proper election designations for contributions

Page 2 of 5

disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line(s) 11(a)(i). Authorized committees should indicate the election for which the contribution was designated. If no election is designated, the contribution is applied to the next election for the federal office the candidate is seeking after the contribution date. Please be advised that incorrect election designations may result in excessive or impermissible contributions. Please amend your report to clarify election designations "O, OTHER2014." (11 CFR §§ 110.1(b) and 110.2(b))

3. While it is permissible for a person to make a contribution for the general election prior to the primary election, the recipient committee must employ an acceptable accounting method to distinguish between primary and general election contributions. (11 CFR § 102.9(e)) This general election amount must be maintained in the committee's account.

Since the candidate will not participate in the general election, any contribution received for the general election must be returned to the donors or redesignated to the primary if your committee has net debts outstanding for the primary election. To redesignate a contribution the committee must either (1) obtain signed written documentation from the contributor(s) authorizing the redesignation of the contribution for another election provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election, or (2) redesignate the contribution by presumption to the primary election, for undesignated contributions made after the primary but before the general election, provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributor of the redesignation in writing. The notification must give the contributor an opportunity to request a refund. A contribution can only be redesignated to a previous election to the extent that the contribution does not exceed net debts outstanding for that election. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(3)(i) and (5)(ii)(C))

Any subsequent report(s) filed with the Commission must disclose the refund or redesignation of any general election contribution. Refunds or redesignations must be done within 60 days after the 2014 Primary Election.

Although the Commission may take further legal action, your prompt action to refund these contributions will be taken into consideration.

4. Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions that appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act (see attached).

Page 3 of 5

An individual or a political committee other than an authorized committee or qualified multi-candidate committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,600 per election. An authorized committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,000 per election. A qualified multi-candidate committee and all affiliated committees may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$5,000 per election. The term "contribution" includes any gift, subscription, loan, advance, or deposit of money or anything of value made by any person for the purpose of influencing any election for federal office. (52 U.S.C. § 30116(a) and (f) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a) and (f)); 11 CFR § 110.1(b), (e) and (k))

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information. If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the excessive amount.

Excessive contributions may be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive portions are properly redesignated or reattributed. Guidelines for each option are provided below.

<u>For reattributions</u>, excessive contributions from individuals can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount is properly reattributed to another person. <u>Please note that reattributions only apply to excessive contributions from individuals</u>. An excessive contribution is considered properly reattributed if (1) the contributors provide the committee with written documentation, signed by each contribution, authorizing a reattribution and indicating the amount of the contribution to be attributed to each contributor; or (2) the committee reattributes by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution if the contribution was made on a written instrument from a joint account and was signed by only one of the account holders. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributors in writing within 60 days of receiving the contribution that the committee intends to reattribute the excessive portion and must give the contributor an opportunity to request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(k)(3)(ii)(B))

<u>For redesignations</u>, the funds can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount is properly redesignated for a different election. An excessive contribution is considered properly redesignated if (1) the committee obtains signed written documentation from the contributor(s) authorizing the

Page 4 of 5

redesignation of the contribution for another election, provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election; or (2) your committee redesignates by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution for another election provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributor of the contribution in writing within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution. The notification must give the contributor an opportunity to request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(5)(ii)(B)) <u>Please note that you cannot presumptively redesignate an excessive contribution from a multi-candidate committee</u>. Also, a contribution can only be redesignated to a previous election to the extent that the contribution does not exceed the committee's net debts outstanding for that election. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(3)(i))

If the foregoing conditions for reattributions or redesignations are not met within 60 days of receipt of the contribution, the excessive amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR § 103.3(b)(1).

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide photocopies of any refund checks and/or letters reattributing or redesignating the contributions in question. Refunds are reported on Line 20(a), (b), or (c), as applicable, of the Detailed Summary Page and on a supporting Schedule B of the report covering the period in which they are made. Redesignations and reattributions are reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period in which the redesignation and/or reattribution is received. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(2), (3) and (4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of excessive contributions, your prompt action to refund, redesignate, and/or reattribute the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

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.

Page 5 of 5

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problems should be filed with the Senate Public Records Office. Please contact the Senate Public Records Office at (202) 224-0322 for instructions on how and where to file an amendment. 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) 694-1138.

Sincerely,

CanolinaSmongeon

Carolina Mongeon Senior Campaign Finance Analyst Reports Analysis Division

427

Missing 48-Hour Notices Joe Carr for Senate (C00541904)

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Election
Womack, Everett	7/19/14	\$1,000.00	P, 2014
Eagle Forum PAC	7/23/14	\$3,000.00	P, 2014
Volomino, Gerald	7/24/14	\$2,000.00	P, 2014
Murphree, Terence	7/27/14	\$1,000.00	P, 2014
SARAHPAC	7/27/14	\$5,000.00	P, 2014
Varner, James	7/27/14	\$1,000.00	O, OTHER2014
Walker, Robert L	7/27/14	\$1,000.00	P, 2014
Wilson, William	7/28/14	\$2,600.00	P, 2014
Youell, Cindy	7/28/14	\$1,000.00	P, 2014
Keegan, Wayne	7/29/14	\$1,100.00	P, 2014
Conservative Campaign Committee	8/1/14	\$1,000.00	P, 2014
Naumann, Jeffrey	8/1/14	\$2,600.00	P, 2014
Rogers, Norman	8/1/14	\$1,000.00	P, 2014
Keras, Jennifer	8/2/14	\$2,600.00	P, 2014
Long, Constance	8/2/14	\$1,400.00	P, 2014
Gaslow, Larry	8/4/14	\$1,000.00	P, 2014
Langer, Harry	8/4/14	\$2,500.00	P, 2014
Langer, Joyce	8/4/14	\$2,500.00	P, 2014

Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions Joe Carr for Senate (C00541904)

Contributor Name Date Amount Election Holland, Walter 12/31/13 \$1,000.00 P. 2014 Holland, Walter 3/31/14 \$1,000.00 P, 2014 Holland, Walter 7/31/14 \$600.00 P, 2014 Holland, Walter 7/31/14 \$600.00 P, 2014 Pusta, Lenora 4/5/14 \$250.00 P, 2014 Pusta, Lenora 5/5/14 \$250.00 P, 2014 Pusta, Lenora 6/5/14 \$250.00 P, 2014 Pusta, Lenora H 6/16/14 \$500.00 P, 2014 Pusta, Lenora 6/30/14 \$100.00 P, 2014 \$250.00 P, 2014 Pusta, Lenora 7/7/14 \$500.00 Pusta, Lenora H 7/16/14 P, 2014 \$500.00 Pusta, Lenora 7/23/14 P, 2014 8/5/14 Pusta, Lenora \$250.00 P, 2014

Excessive Contributions from Individuals