

RQ-2

March 26, 2012

JOSEPH T. BROWNE, TREASURER GRIDIRON-PAC 345 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10154

Response Due Date 04/30/2012

**IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00451153** 

REFERENCE: YEAR-END REPORT (07/01/2011 - 12/31/2011)

## Dear Treasurer:

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. 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 3 item(s):

- 1. Schedule B supporting Line 23 discloses a contribution designated to the 2014 Primary, however, the transaction description for the contribution is "General Debt Retirement." Please amend your report to clarify which election this contribution should be designated to.
- 2. Schedule B of your report discloses one or more contributions to "CHRIS COONS FOR DELAWARE" for the retirement of debts incurred by the 2010 Special General election campaign; however, it appears that the recipient committee(s) had insufficient debts to warrant such a contribution. Please note that a committee may only designate contributions to retire a candidate's debts if those debts exist. (11 CFR §§ 110.1(b) and 110.2(b))

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

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. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1) and (3))

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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, refunds are reported on Line 16 of the Detailed Summary Page and on Schedule A of the report covering the period during which they are received. Redesignations are reported as memo entries on Schedule B of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. 11 CFR §110.2(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.

**3.** Schedule B of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 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. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1) and (3))

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 the excessive contribution(s), your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

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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) 694-1159.

Sincerely,

Allen Norfleet

all Not

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

## Gridiron-PAC (C00451153)

## **Excessive Contributions to a Candidate Committee**

Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Report
FRIENDS OF JOE PITTS	6/24/2011	\$1,000.00	P2012	2011 Mid-Year
FRIENDS OF JOE PITTS	12/21/2011	\$5,000.00	P2012	2011 Year End
CLEAVER FOR CONGRESS	3/28/11	\$1,000.00	P2012	2011 Mid-Year
CLEAVER FOR CONGRESS	9/27/11	\$5,000.00	P2012	2011 Year End