



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

January 7, 2009

Bruce H. Neilson, Treasurer  
Fairfax County Democratic  
Committee - Federal  
2815 Hartland Road  
Falls Church, VA 22043

**Response Due Date:  
February 9, 2009**

Identification Number: C00277541

Reference: Amended Mid Year Report (1/1/07 – 6/30/07), received 1/29/08

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 items:

1. State, district and local party committees that make expenditures and disbursements in connection with both federal and non-federal elections for activities that are not federal election activities pursuant to 11 CFR §100.24 may use only funds subject to the prohibitions and limitations of the Act, or they may allocate such expenditures and disbursements between their federal and their non-federal accounts. 11 CFR §106.7(b)

State, district and local party committees may pay administrative, generic voter drive and exempt activity expenses from their federal account, or allocate between their federal and non-federal accounts according to a fixed percentage selected on FEC Schedule H1, except for activity directly attributable to a clearly identified candidate. Such expenses must be paid from the federal account only. 11 CFR §106.7(c)(2)

Schedule H2 is used by all political committees to report the allocation ratios of their joint federal and non-federal fundraising events and direct candidate support programs. Schedule H2 is filed with each report that discloses a disbursement for allocated activity. Schedule H3 is used by all political committees to report transfers received by the federal account from

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the non-federal account(s) to pay the non-federal share of allocable expenses.

Any expenditures made on behalf of both federal and non-federal candidates (including in-kind contributions, independent expenditures and coordinated expenditures) must be allocated between your committee's federal and non-federal accounts. Schedule H4 is used by all political committees to report payments for allocable expenses. 11 CFR §106.1(a)

Please clarify the procedures you are currently using to pay for allocable expenses. The Commission recommends that you take steps to correct any non-compliance with the regulations. Also, your committee should establish procedures to ensure future compliance with the allocation regulations.

2. Schedule H4 discloses 100% non-federal activity. Please be advised that by definition, this activity does not qualify as an expense(s) that can be allocated between your federal and non-federal accounts. If the disbursements were for operating expenditures paid for with 100% federal funds, they should be itemized on Schedule B for Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. If these expenses were permissibly paid for with 100% non-federal funds, they should not be disclosed on Schedule H4. Further, any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for any portion of this activity is not permissible and must be returned. 11 CFR §102.5(a)(1)(i) Please amend your report to clarify this discrepancy.

3. Your report does not include a Schedule H1 to disclose the ratio for the allocation of certain costs. For State, District and Local party committees, Schedule H1 must be filed in the first report each calendar year that discloses an allocable disbursement and for Separate Segregated Funds and Non-connected committees, in each report that discloses an allocable disbursement for administrative expenses, generic voter drives or public communications that refer to any political party, but do not refer to any clearly identified candidates.

Further, for State, District and Local party committees, all shared administrative, generic voter drive and exempt activity costs incurred during the two-year cycle must be allocated according to the appropriate fixed ratio, unless the federal account elects to pay a higher percentage of its cost. For Separate Segregated Funds and Non-connected committees, administrative expenses, generic voter drive costs and expenses related to public communications referencing any political party committee (but no clearly identified candidates) must be allocated according to a 50% flat

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minimum federal percentage unless the federal account elects to pay a higher cost. 11 CFR §106.7(d)(2), (d)(3) and 11 CFR §§104.10(b)(1) and 106.6(c)

**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) 694-1157.

Sincerely,



Laura E. Sinram  
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division