



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

January 13, 2006

Gayle Jackson, Treasurer
Ohio Democratic Party
271 E State St.
Columbus, OH 43215

**Response Due Date:
February 13, 2006**

Identification Number: C00016899

Reference: September Monthly Report (8/1/05 – 8/31/05)

Dear Ms. Jackson:

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. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-Schedule A of your report discloses transfers from your non-federal account totaling \$5,600 for the apparent misdeposit of contributions originally intended for the federal account. Please be advised, contributions deposited in either a federal account or an account used for both federal and non-federal activity must meet the following conditions: the contributions are designated or expressly solicited for use in connection with federal elections and contributors are informed that their contributions are subject to the limits and prohibitions of the Act. 11 CFR §102.5(a)

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the misdeposited funds, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) totaling \$1,355.64 for "Mail Service". Expenditures and disbursements for public communications (as defined under 11 CFR §100.26) that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any candidate for Federal office, meet the definition of Federal Election Activity under 11 CFR §100.24 and should be disclosed on Schedule B for Line 30(b) along with the identity of the candidate(s).

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Further, public communications that meet the definition of Federal Election Activity and that also contain express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, but do not meet the conditions of exempt activity, would constitute an in-kind contribution, an independent expenditure or a coordinated party expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25, as appropriate, rather than on Schedule B for Line 30(b). Please clarify if this activity meets the definition of Federal Election Activity or if it contains express advocacy and amend your report to properly disclose this activity, if necessary.

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "Fundraising Consultant," "Postage-BRE-No FEA," "Postage No FEA," "Printing No FEA," "Radio Ad No FEA" and "Telemarketing-No FEA" on Schedule(s) B supporting Line 21(b). 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

-On Schedule H4, your allocated activity or event year-to-date total calculations for the Administrative category are incorrect. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for administrative, voter drive, exempt activity costs and expenses for public communications made by PACs referencing only political parties are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for each separate category. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for fundraising and direct candidate support 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.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses voided or returned checks for expenditures made during this or previous reporting periods. Please clarify if and when these checks were reissued. If they were not reissued, please clarify the steps your committee has taken to account for the federal portion of these voided or returned checks in order to avoid the acceptance of a prohibited in-kind contribution.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses a voided or returned check(s) for an

allocable expenditure(s) or reimbursement(s) made to an individual(s) during this or previous reporting periods where an adequate explanation has not been provided. Please clarify if and when this check(s) was reissued. If this check(s) was not reissued, please be advised that this may result in an in-kind contribution received by your committee from this individual(s) and should be reported on Schedules A and H4. Please amend your report to provide further clarification regarding this activity.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses a reimbursement(s) to an individual(s) for apparent travel and subsistence advances in which the total amount reimbursed exceeds \$500. When the reimbursement amount to staff for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by committee staff that make up the reimbursement have to be itemized as memo entries regardless of the amount. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and an adequate purpose. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule H4, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3

-Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions from other political committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule A, supporting Line 11(c) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing.

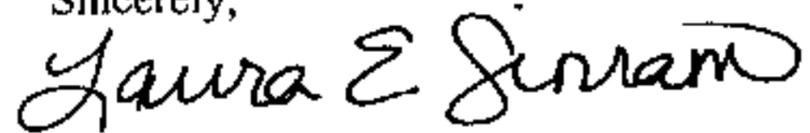
Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. 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.

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

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Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1157.

Sincerely,



Laura E. Sinram
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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