

Joel Pate, Treasurer Republican Party of Florida 420 E. Jefferson Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

Response Due Date: January 26, 2009

Identification Number: C00099259

Reference: Amended June Monthly Report (5/1/08 - 5/31/08), received 7/16/08

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 4 items:

1. Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "audio/video," "audio/visual," "communications consulting," "media consulting," "photography" and "photos." Please be advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(1), expenditures for public communications (as defined by 11 CFR §100.26) that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any such candidate for Federal office must not be allocated between or among federal and non-federal accounts. Only federal funds may be used.

Further, expenditures and disbursements for public communications 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). However, 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

- 3. Schedule H4 of your report discloses payments to "Kiwanis of Little Havana" and "Hispanic Chamber of Commerce M Orlando," which are categorized as an Administrative expense; however, the purpose of these disbursements disclosed are "voter reg booth rental- 3/14/08" and "voter reg booth rental 4/8/2008." Please be advised that payments made for your committee's generic voter drive activities, that do not qualify as Federal election activities and that are not party exempt activities, should be categorized as a Voter Drive expense on Schedule H4. Please amend your report to clarify the appropriate category for this activity or provide clarifying information regarding this apparent discrepancy.
- 4. Schedule H4 discloses a disbursement(s) which is categorized as a fundraising expense(s); however, a Schedule H2 has not been filed to disclose the allocation ratio. All committees are required to allocate the direct costs of each fundraising event in which the committee collects both federal and non-federal funds. The costs are allocated according to the funds received ratio and reported on Schedule H2. 11 CFR §§106.6(d) and 106.7(d)(4). Please file a Schedule H2 to disclose the ratio for the fundraising event(s).
- 5. Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) B of your report to clarify the following description(s): "merchant discount." Please amend Schedule(s) H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "administrative fees" and "gifts." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(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) 694-1393.

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Sincerely,

Sylvette S. Garnes

Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division