



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

March 16, 2005

Betty Presley, Treasurer
San Bernardino County
Republican Central Committee
13911 Park Avenue, Suite 204
Victorville, CA 92393

Response Due Date:
April 15, 2005

Identification Number: C00014092

Reference: Amended April Quarterly Report (1/1/04-3/31/04), received 7/15/04

Dear Ms. Presley:

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:

-Your calculations for Line 32, Columns A and B appear to be incorrect. FEC calculations disclose both these amounts to be \$11,417.38. Please provide the corrected totals on the Detailed Summary Page.

-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 and exempt activity costs 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.

-Your report discloses limited payments for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are payments made for the purpose of operating a political committee including, but not limited to, rent, utilities, salaries, telephone service, office equipment and supplies. Each state, district or

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local party committee utilizing separate federal and non-federal accounts is required to allocate any administrative expenses (excluding salary) between the accounts according to a fixed percentage selected on FEC Schedule H1. A Schedule H1 must be filed with the first FEC FORM 3X filed at the beginning of each calendar year. Payments for salary and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time on Federal election activities or on activities in connection with a Federal election must be made from a federal account and disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 11 CFR §106.7

Any goods or services provided to your committee by a person, except volunteer activity (i.e., a person's time), would be considered an in-kind contribution from that person, and would be subject to the disclosure requirements of 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3) and 11 CFR §104.13, and the limitations and prohibitions of 2 U.S.C. §§441a and 441b.

Clarification regarding administrative expenses should be provided during each two year election cycle beginning with the first report filed in the non-election year. Please provide the necessary information regarding administrative expenses incurred by your committee and/or amend your report to disclose such expenses according to the referenced provisions of the Act and Commission Regulations.

-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).

-Your report does not include a Schedule H1 to disclose the ratio for the allocation of certain costs. Schedule H1 must be filed with the first report each year for State, District and Local party committees, and with the first report filed in the two-year election cycle for Separate Segregated Funds and Non-connected committees. 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 this ratio, unless the federal account elects to pay a higher percentage of its cost. For Separate Segregated Funds and Non-connected committees, all shared administrative and generic voter drive costs must be allocated according to this ratio 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)

-Your report does not disclose any payments for salary or wages on Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 11 CFR §100.24 defines as Federal Election Activity, services provided by an employee of a State, district or local party committee who spends more than 25 percent of their time during that month on activities in connection with a Federal election. You are advised that payments for salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25 percent of their compensated time in a given month on Federal Election Activity or activities in connection with a Federal election must be made with Federal funds only. Please provide clarification regarding the lack of payments for salary and wages disclosed by your committee.

-Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "Director's Wage" and "Staff Salaries." Please be advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(2), salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time in a given month on Federal election activity or activities in connection with a Federal election must not be allocated between or among federal and non-federal accounts. Rather, only federal funds may be used. Further, the Commission concluded in Advisory Opinion 2003-11 that amounts spent for employee-specific "fringe benefits," consisting of health insurance, disability insurance, life insurance, retirement benefits and payroll taxes, fall into the category of compensated time.

Any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for this payment is not permissible and must be returned. Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

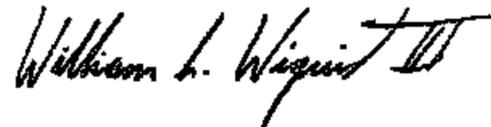
-On Schedule A supporting Line 18 you disclose transfers from your non-federal account which appear to be identical to the transfers disclosed on Schedule H3. Be advised that transfers from your non-federal account should only be disclosed on Schedule H3 supporting Line 18(a). Please amend your report to clarify this discrepancy.

Unlike previous election cycles, 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 Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1394.

Sincerely,



William S. Wiquist
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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