



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

July 17, 2016

MIKE SPEETZEN, TREASURER
POLARIS POLITICAL ACTION
COMMITTEE
2100 HIGHWAY 55
MEDINA, MN 55340

Response Due Date
08/22/2016

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00279497

REFERENCE: APRIL QUARTERLY REPORT (01/01/2016 - 03/31/2016)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report 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. Commission Regulations require that a committee discloses the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR § 104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name (initials for first or last name are not acceptable), complete mailing address, occupation, and name of employer. (11 CFR § 100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)) See 11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)(B) for examples of acceptable statements regarding the requirements of federal law.

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand

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alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The requests must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution,
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you should either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(4))

Please amend your report to provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

2. Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions to federal candidates and other political committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 23 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your filings. (52 U.S.C. §30104(b) (formerly 2 U.S.C §434(b)) and FORM 3X Instructions) Further, please amend your report to disclose these contributions on the proper line.

3. Schedule B supporting Line 29 of your report discloses a contribution(s) to "TEAM RYAN;" however, you have also disclosed "PAUL D. RYAN" for this transaction. Please clarify whether this was an earmarked contribution(s) made by your committee through "PAUL D. RYAN" to this committee, or if you made the contribution to the political committee exercising no direction or control over how the funds were to be used. If the latter is the case, please do not include the candidate's name on your report. Please amend your report to clarify the ultimate recipient of this contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.3 (b)(3))

- For your information and consideration when preparing future filings,

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Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) of your report discloses contributions received through what appears to be a payroll deduction plan. Be advised that payroll deductions should also include the amount deducted per pay period. (11 CFR §104.8(b)). Please refer to the enclosed sample of properly reported payroll deductions.

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) 694-1172.

Sincerely,



Jack Baisden
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

Payroll Deductions

SCHEDULE A (FEC Form 3X)		FOR LINE NUMBER: (check only one)		PAGE	OF
ITEMIZED RECEIPTS		Use separate schedule(s) for each category of the Detailed Summary Page			
Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11a	<input type="checkbox"/> 11b	<input type="checkbox"/> 11c	<input type="checkbox"/> 12
NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full) Critical Reason Inc. PAC		<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 15	<input type="checkbox"/> 16
Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) A. Kant Immanuel		Date of Receipt payroll deduction*			
Mailing Address 3 Critiques Ave.		MM / DD / YYYY			
City Konigsburg		Amount of Each Receipt this Period			
State VA		90.00			
Zip Code 33333		(\$15.00 biweekly)**			
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C		Aggregate Year-to-Date			
Name of Employer Critical Reason Inc.		285.00			
Occupation Brand Manager					
Receipt For: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)					

*Adding Extra Text/Explanation: When using FECFile electronic filing software, this information can be entered using the “memo text” window. To make a memo text entry, select the “view” menu on the FECFile toolbar. Select “All Transactions.” Single click (highlight) the transaction to which the memo text will be attached. Then select the “Edit” menu on the toolbar and select “memo text.”

**When using FECFile electronic filing software, enter this information in the “description” field.

By June 30 (the closing date for the July quarterly report), 13 pay periods have passed, and the manager’s aggregate contributions are \$195—still below the \$200 itemization threshold. The manager’s second-quarter contributions again are included in “unitemized contributions” in the July report.

By September 30 (the closing date for the October quarterly report), 19 pay periods have passed, and the manager’s contributions reach \$285. Now the committee itemizes the total contributions received from the manager during the third quarter (\$90), providing the year-to-date total in the appropriate space. (See the illustration above.)

In-Kind Contributions

When determining whether to itemize an *in-kind contribution* received, follow the same guidelines listed above under “When to Itemize Receipts.” See page 9 for information on how to determine the dollar value of an *in-kind contribution*.

In addition, add the value of the *in-kind contribution* to the operating expenditures total on Line 21(b) (in order to avoid inflating the cash-on-hand amount). 104.13(a)(2).

If the *in-kind contribution* must be itemized on Schedule A, then it must also be itemized on a Schedule B for operating expenditures. See the illustration on page 56.

Appreciated Goods

When a committee receives an *in-kind contribution* whose value may appreciate over time, such as stock or artwork, special reporting rules apply:

- Itemize the initial gift, if necessary, as a *memo entry* on Schedule A (see “When to Itemize Receipts,” on page 53). Under “Amount,” report the fair market value of the *contribution* on the date the item was received. Do not include that amount in the total for Line 11(a)(i) on the Detailed Summary Page.
- Once the item is sold, report the sale price as a *contribution* on Line 11(a)(i) if the purchaser is known or as an “other receipt” on Line 15 if the purchaser is unknown.

Itemize the transaction on Schedule A if necessary. 104.13(b). See also AO 1989-6.

Joint Contributions

A *joint contribution* is made by a single check that bears two signatures. A check with one signature may also be a *joint contribution* if an accompanying form or letter, signed by both contributors, instructs the committee to treat it as a *joint contribution*. (A check drawn on a joint bank account but signed by only one person does not qualify as a *joint contribution*. Attribute the full amount of such a check only to the person who signed it. Alternatively, a reattribution may be sought using the procedures described below.)

For the purposes of itemization, report a *joint contribution* as though the joint contributors had given separately.

A *joint contribution* is itemized in items A and B in the illustration on page 57. In this case, the committee received a \$1,000 check from a married couple, signed by both spouses. Because there were no