

This letter is in response to an FEC letter inquiring about our Committee Amended Monthly Report of May 2008 (covering receipts and expenditures from 4/1/2008 to 4/30/2008).

In a letter dated May 8, 2009, Ms. Laura E. Sinram, Senior Campaign Financial Analyst, Reports Analysis Division, requests an explanation for failure to disclosure receipts and disbursements which appeared in previous versions of this report.

The Committee implemented NGP Software in March 2008 to build a financial management database to track all income and expenditures and to handle FEC and State Board of Elections reporting requirements of the Committee. During the learning curve of the new software, the Treasurer and other volunteers were also confronted with a rapid increase in both receipts and disbursements with a high level of interest in Presidential campaigns.

If a receipt or disbursement no longer appears in an amendment to our original report of May 2008, then it was incorrectly reported in the earlier report. Misclassification is possible between our Federal account and Non Federal account and may affect either a receipt or a disbursement. During transition to the new financial management software, other mistakes may have led to recording an incorrect date on a receipt or disbursement and may have been detected (and corrected) after the original report was filed. As the responsible Committee volunteers became more proficient with the new software, retroactive changes to records may have improved the accuracy of the data while at the same time altering historical (cumulative) records of financial transactions.

Accounting policies and bank reconciliation procedures have been changed as the result of experiences with the new software, and Committee volunteers receive ongoing training. We have complete confidence in the new procedures providing accurate financial reports and records. The most recent amendment of a monthly report will reflect accurately what is contained in the books and records of the Committee, even if earlier errors have been detected and corrected in the interim.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce H Neilson, Treasurer
Fairfax County Democratic Committee
6/15/2009
