

RQ-2

December 19, 2012

ANTHONY J. FERATE, TREASURER OKLAHOMA LEADERSHIP COUNCIL 4031 N. LINCOLN BOULEVARD OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00167213

Response Due Date 01/23/2013

REFERENCE: OCTOBER MONTHLY REPORT (09/01/2012 - 09/30/2012)

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 6 item(s):

1. Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why each disbursement was made. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report to clarify the following description(s): "IN-KIND:PARTY PROMOTIONAL ITEMS" and "PARTY PROMOTIONAL ITEMS." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursement, please refer to 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3)(i).

Additional clarification regarding inadequate purposes of disbursement published in the Federal Register can be found at http://www.fec.gov/law/policy/purposeofdisbursement/inadequate_purpose_lis t_3507.pdf.

- 2. Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for expenses other than travel and subsistence. Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in a calendar year, a memo entry including the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information or provide clarifying information if memo items are not required. (11 CFR §§ 104.3(b)(3)(i) and 104.9, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20)
- 3. Schedule B of your report discloses reimbursements to staff for apparent

OKLAHOMA LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Page 2 of 4

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 staff to any one vendor that make up the reimbursement may have to be itemized. For example, if the related payments to any one vendor aggregate in excess of \$200 for the calendar year, the staff advance payment to the vendor must also be itemized in a memo entry for that reimbursement. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and detailed purpose of the advance. If itemization is not necessary for a particular reimbursement to staff in excess of \$500, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. Please amend your report to include the missing or clarifying information. See Advisory Opinion 1996-20 for additional clarification. (11 CFR § 104.9)

- **4.** Your Amended August Monthly (7/1/12 7/31/12), received 10/15/12, Amended September Monthly (8/1/12 8/31/12), received 10/15/12, and October Monthly (9/1/12 9/30/12) Reports combined do 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.
- **5.** Your Amended August Monthly (7/1/12 7/31/12), received 10/15/12, Amended September Monthly (8/1/12 8/31/12), received 10/15/12, and October Monthly (9/1/12 9/30/12) Reports combined disclose 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 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 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)

OKLAHOMA LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Page 3 of 4

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. Payments to a consulting, law or accounting firm will be considered acceptable for salary.

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.

- **6.** Schedule H5 of your report discloses no transfer-in of Levin funds to your federal account for Generic Campaign activity. However, Schedule L-B supporting Line 4(d) of the Schedule L Aggregation Page for the "Oklahoma Leadership Council" account discloses a \$7,026.77 transfer(s)-out of Levin funds for this activity. Please amend your report to clarify this apparent discrepancy.
- Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. For your information and consideration when preparing future filings, transfers to affiliated committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 22 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing. (2 U.S.C § 434(b) and FORM 3X Instructions)

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

OKLAHOMA LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Page 4 of 4

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) 694-1140.

Sincerely,

James McAllister

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

In Matt

Reports Analysis Division

319