



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

February 24, 2006

Jeffrey Connaughton, Treasurer
Unite Our States
513 Capitol Court NE, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20002

**Response Due Date:
March 27, 2006**

Identification Number: C00412643

Reference: Year-End Report (7/1/05 – 12/31/05)

Dear Mr. Connaughton:

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:

-Schedule B of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 2 U.S.C. §441a(a) prohibits a non-multicandidate political committee and its affiliates, from making a contribution to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,100 per election. Please refer to the Campaign Guide for information on how a committee qualifies for multicandidate status.

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information.

If any contribution you made exceeds the limits, you must request a refund of the excessive amount or provide a written authorization for a redesignation of the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR §110.2(b) within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt.

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations were not met within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt, your committee must obtain a refund of the excessive amount.

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If your committee has met the criteria for multicandidate status, please file FEC FORM 1M "Notification of Multicandidate Status" with the Commission. The treasurer must file FEC FORM 1M no later than ten (10) calendar days after qualifying for multicandidate committee status. 11 CFR §102.2(a)(3)

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of the refund or redesignation request sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memo entries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. 11 CFR §110.1(b)

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the excessive contribution(s), your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "Banner and Posters for Event," "Catering Expense," "Expense Reimbursement - Catering," "Fundraising Consulting Fees," "Reimbursement for wine for fundraiser," "Venue Rental" and "Venue Rental - Deposit for Event" on Schedule B. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B or E supporting Lines 23 or 24 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

-Schedule B discloses expenditures for "communications consulting" and "Expense Reimbursement - Advertising." If a portion or all of these expenditures were for public communications (as defined by 11 CFR §100.26) and voter drive activity (under 11 CFR §106.6(b)(2)(i)) containing express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, this would constitute an in-kind contribution or an independent expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B or E supporting Line 23 or 24 as appropriate. Public communications and voter drive activity that refer to a clearly identified Federal candidate, but that do not expressly advocate the election or defeat of that candidate should be reported on Schedule B for Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please clarify whether this activity contained express advocacy and amend your report to properly disclose this activity, if necessary.

-Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions

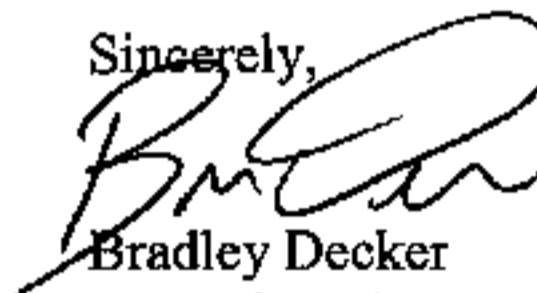
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to federal candidates and committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 23 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing.

Please note, 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) 694-1301.

Sincerely,



Bradley Decker

Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Report
Bob Casey for Pennsylvania Committee	9/29/05	\$4,200	Primary	Year-End Report
Nelson for US Senate	12/23/05	\$3,000	Primary	Year-End Report

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