



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

March 21, 2007

Mark Tondreau, Treasurer
Rhode Island Republican State Central Committee
413 Knight Street, Unit 101
Warwick, RI 02886

**Response Due Date:
April 20, 2007**

Identification Number: C00078196

Reference: 30 Day Post-General Report (10/19/06-11/27/06)

Dear Mr. Tondreau:

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:

-The totals listed on Lines 11(a)(i), 11(a)(ii), 12, 18(a), 18(c), 20, 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), 21(b), 21(c), 30(b), 30(c), and 32, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) totaling \$199,127.36 for "Advertising" and "Postage." Expenditures and disbursements for public communications (as defined under 11 CFR §100.26) that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any candidate for Federal office, meet the definition of Federal Election Activity under 11 CFR §100.24 and should be disclosed on Schedule B for Line 30(b) along with the identity of the candidate(s).

Further, public communications that meet the definition of Federal Election Activity and that also contain express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, but do not meet the conditions of exempt activity, would constitute an in-kind contribution, an independent expenditure or a

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coordinated party expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25, as appropriate, rather than on Schedule B for Line 30(b). Please clarify if this activity meets the definition of Federal Election Activity or if it contains express advocacy and amend your report to properly disclose this activity, if necessary.

-On Schedule H1 of your report, you have checked an incorrect fixed percentage for your allocated federal and non-federal administrative, generic voter drive and exempt activity costs. The fixed percentage for these costs is based on whether a Presidential and/or a Senate candidate appear on the State's ballot. Please amend your report to include a corrected Schedule H1 and note that a change in this ratio may make it necessary to repay your non-federal account for any overpayments that may have been made. While the Commission may take further legal action concerning any impermissible overpayments by the non-federal account, your prompt action will be taken into consideration. 11 CFR §106.7(d)(2) and (3)

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses disbursements for the Administrative category which use a ratio that is inconsistent with the ratio disclosed on Schedule H1. The fixed ratio for the allocation of administrative, generic voter drive and exempt activity expenses by State, district and local party committees should be the same for the full two-year election cycle unless a Special election is scheduled during an odd numbered year. Please amend your report to clarify this apparent discrepancy.

-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, exempt activity costs and expenses for public communications made by PACs referencing only political parties 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.

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**

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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- 1140.

Sincerely,



Nisha Saspal
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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