

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

March 19, 2010

David Tandy, Treasurer Kentucky State Democratic Central Executive Committee P.O. Box 694 Frankfort, KY 40602

Response Due Date: April 23, 2010

Identification Number: C00011197

Reference: October Monthly Report (9/01/09-9/30/09)

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 5 items:

1. Schedule A supporting Line 17 of your report discloses a payment(s) from a federal candidate committee(s) for goods and/or services provided by your committee. 11 CFR §100.52(d)(1) states that "...the provision of any goods or services without charge or at a charge which is less than the usual and normal charge for such goods or services is a contribution." Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, membership lists and mailing lists. The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as "...the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution". The usual and normal charge for services is defined as "...the hourly or piecework charge for the services at a commercially reasonable rate prevailing at the time the services were rendered." 11 CFR §100.52(d)(2)

Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided to the federal candidate committee(s) and explain the steps your committee took in determining the amount(s) charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at less than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is considered to be an in-kind contribution by your committee to the federal

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candidate committee(s) and is subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §441a. (11 CFR §100.52(d)(1))

2. Schedule A supporting Line 15 of your report discloses a payment(s) from an organization(s) which is not a political committee(s) registered with the Commission (see attached). It appears the receipt(s) was for goods and/or services provided by your committee. Pursuant to Advisory Opinion 1979-18, the sale/purchase price paid to a political committee could involve the receipt of a contribution from a purchaser if the purchase price exceeds the "usual and normal charge". The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution. Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, advertising services, membership lists, and mailing lists. 11 CFR $\S100.52(d)(1)$

Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided and explain the steps your committee took in determining the amount charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at more than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is considered to be an inkind contribution(s) received by your committee from an unregistered organization(s) and is prohibited subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. \S 441a(f) and 441b or 11 CFR \S 102.5(b).

3. Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) B of your report to clarify the following description(s): "Political Consultant." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

4. Please amend your report by providing the address for each disbursement itemized on Schedule(s) H4 supporting Line(s) 21(a).

5. Schedule H4 of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for "software." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, payment to the original vendors must be itemized as memo entries <u>regardless of amount</u>. Each memo entry must include 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 and clearly identify on the Schedule H4, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3

- You have received a contribution from "Sales, Tillman, Wallbaum, Catlett & Slattery Law Offices", which appears to be an unincorporated proprietorship or partnership. Generally, these types of contributions are to be attributed to each person based on their percentage of ownership in the firm. Each person who has contributed in excess of \$200 since January 1 should be identified by name, address, occupation, name of employer, amount of contribution, and aggregate total on Schedule A. 11 CFR §110.1(e) Please amend your report by providing the omitted information.

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.

<u>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.</u> 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) 694-1133.

Sincerely Christopher J. Morse Senior Campaign Finance Analyst **Reports Analysis Division**

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Receipt From Unregistered Organization

Contributor Name	Date	Amount
Beshear Abramson Campaign Fund	9/16/09	\$600.00