



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

Anthony N. Lepore Jr., Treasurer
Rhode Island Brotherhood of
Correction Officers
P.O. Box 8273
Cranston, RI 02911

JUN 17 1998

Identification Number: C00322362

Reference: Year End Report (7/1/97-12/31/97)

Dear Mr. Lepore:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-You must attempt to obtain the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer for all individuals who contribute more than \$200 in a calendar year. Please amend your report to include the omitted information.

A committee may establish "best efforts" by providing the Commission with a description of its procedures for requesting the information. It is also in the best interests of the committee to provide a copy of its solicitation. In order to establish "best efforts", the committee must demonstrate that it makes at least one request for the information after the contribution is received. This one request must be made for any solicited or unsolicited contribution that, in the aggregate, exceeds the \$200 threshold and lacks the necessary information.

Each solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the information. If a committee receives a contribution that, in the aggregate, exceeds the \$200 threshold but lacks contributor information, the committee must, within 30 days, make a written or oral request for the information. Please note that a written request may not include an additional solicitation or material on any other subject, other than thanking the contributor for the donation, and must include a pre-addressed return post card or envelope for the contributor's response. An oral request must be documented in writing.

RHODE ISLAND BROTHERHOOD OF CORRECTION OFFICERS
PAGE 2

Committees must also disclose information that was not provided by the contributor, but is available in any of the committee's records for that current election cycle.

If a committee receives contributor information after the contributions have been reported, the committee shall either a) file with its next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before its next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i) and 11 CFR § 104.7)

-Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page discloses operating expenditures during the reporting period. Please amend your report to clarify whether this figure includes any disbursements to payees that aggregate greater than \$200 in the calendar year. If this is the case, itemize the expenditures on Schedule B. 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3)

-Your report contains information disclosed on Schedule H4. This schedule is used by committees which have separate federal and non-federal accounts to disclose the allocation of funds for expenditures between the two types of accounts. Your reports do not show payments from a non-federal account on a Schedule H3, as would be customary for committees who allocate between accounts. If your committee does not maintain a non-federal account, all disbursements should be disclosed on a Schedule B and no allocation schedules filed. Please clarify the procedures you are currently using to allocate shared expenses if any, and report future disbursements appropriately.

-For your information, all contributions received that aggregate \$200 or less per individual for the calendar year should be reported on Line 11(a)(ii). Contributions received aggregating over \$200 per individual for the calendar year should be reported on Line 11(a)(i) and itemized on Schedule A.

-Your report(s) was not signed by the treasurer or designated agent listed on your Statement of Organization. Please amend your report(s) by providing the signature of an individual that is authorized to sign the report(s). 2 U.S.C. §434(a)(1) and 11 CFR §104.14(a) and (d) If a new treasurer has

RHODE ISLAND BROTHERHOOD OF CORRECTION OFFICERS
PAGE 3

been appointed, please file an amended Statement of Organization (FORM 1) or a letter to reflect this change.

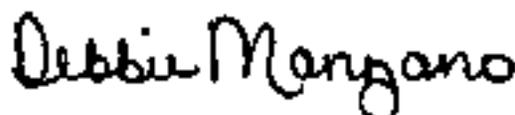
-Your report discloses no payments for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are payments made for the purpose of operating a political committee including, but not limited to, rent, utilities, salaries, telephone service, office equipment and supplies. Any such payments to a person aggregating in excess of \$200 in a calendar year must be disclosed on Schedule B, supporting Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(5) If these expenses are being paid by a connected organization, your Statement of Organization must be amended to reflect this relationship. 2 U.S.C. §433(b)(2) In addition, if expenses have been incurred but not paid in a reporting period, the activity should be disclosed as a debt on Schedule D, if the obligation is \$500 or more, or outstanding for sixty days or more. 11 CFR §104.11

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.

Clarification regarding administrative expenses should be disclosed during each two year election cycle beginning with the first report filed in the non-election year. Please verify that all expenses referenced above (i.e., rent, salaries, utilities, etc.) have been adequately disclosed. If these services have been provided by volunteers, please confirm this in writing.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530. My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,



Debbie Manzano
Senior Reports Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

