



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20543

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Mina Brees, Treasurer  
Travis County Democratic Party  
P.O. Box 684263 (1311 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street)  
Austin, TX 78763

MAR 2 6 2003

Identification Number: C00257519

Reference: Mid-Year Report (1/1/01-6/30/01)

Dear Ms. Brees:

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:

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30

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days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2))  
The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your 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 your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your 2000 Year End Report (11/28/00-12/31/00). Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-On Schedule D of your previous report, you disclosed a debt(s) owed to "Aus-Tex," "Denson Consulting," "Ikon (IOS)." This obligation(s), however, has been omitted from this report. Please amend your report to include this debt(s) on Schedule D and Line 10 of the Summary Page. All debts and obligations must be disclosed until extinguished. 11 CFR §104.11

-Your report discloses a negative ending cash balance of \$-9,769.11. This suggests that you have either overdrawn your account, made a mathematical error, or incurred a debt. If your committee has incurred a debt or obligation, please show a zero balance on Line 8 of the Summary Page and reflect the amount and the nature of the debt on Schedule D and Line 10. 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3)

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-Your report discloses a transfer(s) for \$15,000 to the Travis County Democratic Party - State which appears to be a non-federal account of your committee. 11 CFR §§106.5 and 106.6 prohibits a committee's federal account from reimbursing its non-federal account for shared allocable expenses. Also, the non-federal account is prohibited from paying the federal account's share of these expenses. These types of costs must be paid according to the allocation ratio derived from the appropriate method on Schedule H1.

If the transfer(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If your non-federal account has paid any expenditures which should have been allocated, you are advised to correct any non-compliance with 11 CFR §106.5 and 106.6 and establish procedures to insure future compliance with allocation regulations.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-On Schedule H3 supporting Line 18 of the Detailed Summary Page, Lines i), ii)e), and iii)e) for the transfers-in from the Travis County Democratic Party State account do not add up to the 4/25/02 and 6/15/02 transfers of \$8,149.76 and \$2,210.48, respectively. Please amend your report to correct this discrepancy. 11 CFR §104.10

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

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "Reimbursed Expenses," "Reimbursement Expense," "Reimbursement," "Reimbursement Expense," "Reimbursement Expense," and "Reimbursement Payment". For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

A response or 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. 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

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need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,



Maureen Benitz  
Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division

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