



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

May 11, 2005

Myra Stiles, Treasurer
Shelby County Democratic Executive Committee
2400 Poplar Ave Suite 330
Memphis, TN 38104

**Response Due Date:
June 10, 2005**

Identification Number: C00406793

Reference: October Quarterly Report (7/1/04-9/30/04)

Dear Ms. Stiles:

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:

-Political committees which have cash on hand at the time of registration must disclose the source of the funds. The balance is assumed to be composed of those contributions most recently received by the committee prior to registration. Please identify the source of these contributions on a memo Schedule A. 11 CFR §104.12

-Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions totaling \$1,000 from "The First Baptist Church" and "Welch Realty Company," which appear to be a corporation(s). 2 U.S.C. §441b(a) prohibits the receipt of contributions from corporations unless made from a separate segregated fund established by the corporation.

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

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SHELBY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PAGE 2

If you have received a prohibited contribution(s), you may have to make a refund. If within 30 days of receipt you (1) transferred the prohibited amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund, you may retain the contribution in an account not used to influence federal elections. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 30 days of receipt, the prohibited amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR §103.3(b)(1).

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. In addition, any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report covering the period during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of a prohibited contribution, prompt action by your committee to transfer-out or refund the amount will be taken into consideration.

-Schedule A of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions from an organization(s), which is not a political committee registered with the Commission. In order for your committee to accept contributions from unregistered organizations into accounts used to influence federal elections, your committee should take steps to insure that the contributor(s) used permissible funds to make the contribution(s) to avoid violating 2 U.S.C. §§441a(f) and 441b or 11 CFR §102.5(b). Under 11 CFR §102.5(b), organizations which are not political committees under the Act and choose to contribute to federal committees must either: 1) establish a separate account which contains only those funds permitted under the Act, or 2) demonstrate through a reasonable accounting method that the organization has received sufficient funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions in order to make the contribution.

If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. In addition, please clarify whether the contribution(s) received from the referenced organization(s) is permissible.

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SHELBY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PAGE 3

To the extent that your committee has received prohibited funds, you may have to make a refund. If within 30 days of receipt you (1) transferred the prohibited amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund, you may retain the contribution in an account not used to influence federal elections. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 30 days of receipt, the prohibited amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR §103.3(b)(1).

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. Should you choose to transfer-out or refund the contribution(s), the Commission will presume the funds were impermissible if no statement from your committee provides information to the contrary. Transfers-out and refunds should be disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report covering the period during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, prompt action by your committee in transferring-out or refunding the amounts will be taken into consideration.

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "The Balance of Fundraiser charges," "The charges for fundraiser: Ballroom, Food," "The Deposit for fundraiser," "Supplies, door prizes for fundraiser," and "Phone call for fundraiser" on Schedule(s) 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 supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) totaling \$6,627.19 for "Maililng, mailing list," "Mailing, Mailing list," "Photography," "Wire stands for signs," "Outdoor sign for headquarters," "Purchase of supplies, postage," "Deposit for phone bank phones," and "Install Phone Bank Phones." 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

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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 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 amend your report to properly disclose this activity or provide clarifying information.

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "Purchase of campaign materials," which appears to meet the definition of Federal Election Activity ("FEA") and may also meet the conditions of exempt party activity as defined under 11 CFR §§100.80, 100.87, 100.89 and 11 CFR §§100.140, 100.147 and 100.149. Please be advised that activity which simultaneously constitutes both exempt activity and FEA must be paid for as an FEA activity.

If this apparent exempt activity represents Get-out-the-vote activity conducted in connection with an election in which one or more candidates for Federal office appear on the ballot, it is considered to be Federal Election Activity. If this apparent exempt activity represents Voter Registration activity during the period that begins on the date that is 120 calendar days before the date that a regularly scheduled Federal election is held and ends on the date of the election, it is considered to be Federal Election Activity. 11 CFR §100.24

If this apparent exempt activity is a public communication(s) (as defined under 11 CFR §100.26) that refers to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and promotes, supports, attacks or opposes any candidate for Federal office, it meets 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 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 amend your report to clarify (1) whether the activity disclosed meets the conditions of exempt party activity and (2) the type of FEA this activity represents or provide clarifying information as to why it does not meet the definition of FEA. In addition, please properly disclose this activity if necessary.

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule B of your report to clarify the following description(s): "Contract Services," "Payment on settlement," and "Purchase of campaign materials." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

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

-Schedule B supporting Line 29 discloses \$16,800 in transfers to what appears to be a non-federal account of your committee. Please provide further clarification regarding this transfer to your non-federal account.

You are advised that 11 CFR §102.5 prohibits a non-federal account from financing activity in connection with federal elections. If any of the disbursements disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 29 were made to influence the election or defeat of specific federal candidates, the disbursements should be allocated accordingly and disclosed as either in-kind contributions on Schedule B supporting Line 23, independent expenditures on Schedule E supporting Line 24, or as coordinated expenditures on Schedule F supporting Line 25. 11 CFR §§104.3(b)(3) and 106.1 In addition, 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 §§106.6 and 106.7 and establish procedures to insure future compliance with allocation regulations.

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-Your report does not disclose any payments for salary or wages on Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 11 CFR §100.24 defines as Federal Election Activity, services provided by an employee of a State, district or local party committee who spends more than 25 percent of their time during that month on activities in connection with a Federal election. You are advised that payments for salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25 percent of their compensated time in a given month on Federal Election Activity or activities in connection with a Federal election must be made with Federal funds only. Please provide clarification regarding the lack of payments for salary and wages disclosed by your committee.

-Your report discloses limited 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. Each state, district or local party committee utilizing separate federal and non-federal accounts is required to allocate any administrative expenses (excluding salary) between the accounts according to a fixed percentage selected on FEC Schedule H1. A Schedule H1 must be filed with the first FEC FORM 3X filed at the beginning of each calendar year. Payments for salary and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time on Federal election activities or on activities in connection with a Federal election must be made from a federal account and disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 11 CFR §106.7

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 provided during each two year election cycle beginning with the first report filed in the non-election year. Please provide the necessary information regarding administrative expenses incurred by your committee and/or amend your report to disclose such expenses according to the referenced provisions of the Act and Commission Regulations.

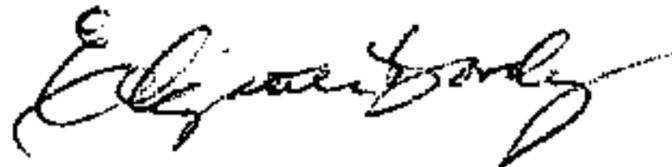
-On Schedule H3 supporting Line 18(a) of the Detailed Summary Page, Lines i), ii), iii), iv) and v) for the transfer-in from the SCDP Non-Federal Account do not add up to the \$33,978.57 transfer received on 9/30/04. Please amend your report to correct this discrepancy. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17

-Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions to non-federal candidates should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 29 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing.

Unlike previous election cycles, 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) 694-1686.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Boody
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

SHELBY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 PAGE 8

Contributor Name	Date	Amount
A.C Wharton for Public Service	07/16/04	\$1,000.00
Campaign to Elect Larry Turner	07/16/04	\$250.00
Carol Chumney for City Council	07/16/04	\$75.00
Committee to Elect Barbara Cooper	07/16/04	\$125.00
Committee to Elect Mike Kernell	07/15/04	\$125.00
Committee to Elect Rickey Peete	07/20/04	\$250.00
Committee to Re-Elect Kathryn Bowers	07/13/04	\$250.00
Farris Mathews Branan Bobango Hellen & Dunlap PAC	07/16/04	\$1,000.00
Friends of Jimmy Moore	07/13/04	\$125.00
Friends of Myron Lowry	07/16/04	\$125.00
Friends of Rita Clark	07/13/04	\$1,000.00
International Union of Operating Engineers Local 369	07/14/04	\$200.00
Iron Workers Local 167 IPAL Fund	07/16/04	\$600.00
Memphis Building Trades Council	07/15/04	\$200.00
Metropolitan Memphis Hotel & Lodging Assoc.	07/14/04	\$250.00
MPACE - Memphis Education Association PAC	07/16/04	\$1,375.00
PACE International Union Regions VII Office	09/01/04	\$100.00
Steamfitters Local Union 614 PAC	07/12/04	\$1,000.00
Friends of John Tanner	07/09/04	\$250.00
Tennessee AFL-CIO Labor Council Political Education Committee	07/13/04	\$250.00
Tennessee Carpenters Regional Council PAC	07/15/04	\$2,000.00

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