



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

July 28, 2010

Royal E. Brown, Treasurer
Independence Blue Cross PAC (IBC PAC)
1901 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Response Due Date:
September 1, 2010

Identification Number: C00450056

Reference: July Quarterly Report (4/1/10-6/30/10)

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 2 items:

1. The totals listed on Lines 11(a)(i) and 11(a)(ii), Column B of the Detailed Summary Page 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. When an individual's aggregate exceeds the \$200 threshold, the amount should not be deducted from the Column B figure for Line 11(a)(ii). Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

2. Your calculations for Line 8 appear to be incorrect. Cash-on-hand at the close of the current reporting period should always equal the closing calendar year-to-date cash-on-hand amount. Please provide the corrected total on the Summary Page.

- Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) of your report discloses contributions received through what appears to be a payroll deduction plan. Please amend your report to disclose the frequency of the deduction, and the amount deducted per pay period. 11 CFR §104.8(b) Please refer to the enclosed sample of properly reported payroll deductions.

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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.**

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) 694-1164.

Sincerely,


Nicole Miller
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

Schedule A regardless of amount. They include:

- Contributions from political committees and similar organizations;
- Transfers from affiliated SSFs;
- Loans received;
- Loan payments received; and
- Refunded contributions received from political committees.

\$200 Threshold

A receipt in any of the following categories must be itemized if it exceeds \$200 per calendar year, either by itself or when aggregated with other receipts from the same source:

- Contributions from individuals and groups other than political committees;
- Offsets to operating expenditures (rebates, refunds and returns of deposits), if the operating expenditures were paid by the SSF; and
- Other receipts (such as interest and dividends earned on invested funds).

Note that, although a committee only has to itemize contributions in its reports for persons (other than political committees) giving more than \$200 per year, the committee's records must identify the sources of contributions of more than \$50. See Chapter 5.

Itemizing Receipts When Not Required

A committee that chooses to itemize all its receipts, regardless of the \$200 threshold, should use a separate Schedule A to itemize the receipts that do not aggregate over \$200. The committee must include those receipts in the total for Line 11(a)(ii), "Unitemized Receipts," on the Detailed Summary Page.

Categorizing Receipts

Before beginning to itemize the committee's receipts, separate them into the different categories listed on the Detailed Summary Page ("Contributions from Individuals," "Contributions from Political Committees," etc.; an illustration of a completed Detailed Summary Page appears on page 68). The receipts in each category must be itemized on a separate Schedule A designated for that category.

Indicate the type of receipt itemized on a particular Schedule A by checking the box for the corresponding line number from the Detailed Summary Page where indicated in the upper right corner of the schedule. The appropriate category of receipt may also be written at the top of each page.

Some categories may require several pages. The total for each category should be entered on the bottom line of the last page for that category.

Itemized Information

For each itemized *contribution*, provide:

- The full name and address (including zip code) of the contributor or other source;
- The name of the contributor's employer (if the contributor is an individual);
- The contributor's occupation (if the contributor is an individual);
- The date of receipt;
- The amount; and
- The aggregate year-to-date total of all receipts (within the same category) from the same source. 104.3(a)(3).

The space indicating the election for which an itemized *contribution* was made ("Receipt For") does not apply to SSFs; leave those boxes blank.

Special Employer Information

If a contributor is self-employed, that should be recorded in the Employer space. If a contributor is not employed, the Employer space should be left blank, but the Occupation space should always be completed (e.g., "unemployed," "retired," "homemaker").

Best Efforts Required

Note that committees and their treasurers must use "best efforts" to obtain and report the information listed above. See page 43 for more information.

Payroll Deductions

Once an individual's deductions aggregate over \$200 in a calendar year, report the total amount deducted from the donor's paychecks during the reporting period on Schedule A. In parentheses indicate the amount that was deducted each pay period. Instead of stating a specific date of receipt, type "payroll deduction" under "Date." The other itemized information, including the year-to-date total, must be completed for each donor. 104.8(b).

EXAMPLE: During an election year, a corporate manager authorizes her employer to deduct \$15 per pay period (each pay period is two weeks) for the company's SSF. The SSF, which files FEC reports on a quarterly schedule, includes the manager's first-quarter contributions (\$90 for six pay periods) as "unitemized contributions" on Line 11(a)(ii) in the April quarterly report.

Payroll Deductions

SCHEDULE A (FEC Form 3X)		Use separate schedule(s) for each category of the Detailed Summary Page		FOR LINE NUMBER: (check only one)		PAGE OF	
ITEMIZED RECEIPTS				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11a		<input type="checkbox"/> 11b	
				<input type="checkbox"/> 11c		<input type="checkbox"/> 12	
				<input type="checkbox"/> 13		<input type="checkbox"/> 14	
				<input type="checkbox"/> 15		<input type="checkbox"/> 16	
				<input type="checkbox"/> 17			
Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee.							
NAME OF COMMITTEE (in Full) Critical Reason Inc. PAC							
Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) A. Kant, Immanuel				Date of Receipt payroll deduction*			
Mailing Address 3 Critiques Ave.				[] [] [] [] [] []			
City Königsburg		State VA		Zip Code 33333		Amount of Each Receipt this Period	
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C						90.00	
Name of Employer Critical Reason Inc.		Occupation Brand Manager		(\$15.00 biweekly)**			
Receipt For: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)		Aggregate Year-to-Date 285.00					

*Adding Extra Text/Explanation: When using FECFile electronic filing software, this information can be entered using the "memo text" window. To make a memo text entry, select the "view" menu on the FECFile toolbar. Select "All Transactions." Single click (highlight) the transaction to which the memo text will be attached. Then select the "Edit" menu on the toolbar and select "memo text."

**When using FECFile electronic filing software, enter this information in the "description" field.

If the *in-kind* contribution must be itemized on Schedule A, then it must also be itemized on a Schedule B for operating expenditures. See the illustration on page 56.

Appreciated Goods

When a committee receives an *in-kind* contribution whose value may appreciate over time, such as stock or artwork, special reporting rules apply:

- Itemize the initial gift, if necessary, as a *memo* entry on Schedule A (see "When to Itemize Receipts," on page 53). Under "Amount," report the fair market value of the *contribution* on the date the item was received. Do not include that amount in the total for Line 11(a)(i) on the Detailed Summary Page.
- Once the item is sold, report the sale price as a *contribution* on Line 11(a)(i) if the purchaser is known or as an "other receipt" on Line 15 if the purchaser is unknown.

Itemize the transaction on Schedule A if necessary. 104.13(b). See also AO 1989-6.

By June 30 (the closing date for the July quarterly report), 13 pay periods have passed, and the manager's aggregate contributions are \$195—still below the \$200 itemization threshold. The manager's second-quarter contributions again are included in "unitemized contributions" in the July report.

By September 30 (the closing date for the October quarterly report), 19 pay periods have passed, and the manager's contributions reach \$285. Now the committee itemizes the total contributions received from the manager during the third quarter (\$90), providing the year-to-date total in the appropriate space. (See the illustration above.)

In-Kind Contributions

When determining whether to itemize an *in-kind* contribution received, follow the same guidelines listed above under "When to Itemize Receipts." See page 9 for information on how to determine the dollar value of an *in-kind* contribution.

In addition, add the value of the *in-kind* contribution to the operating expenditures total on Line 21(b) (in order to avoid inflating the cash-on-hand amount). 104.13(a)(2).

Joint Contributions

A *joint contribution* is made by a single check that bears two signatures. A check with one signature may also be a *joint contribution* if an accompanying form or letter, signed by both contributors, instructs the committee to treat it as a *joint contribution*. (A check drawn on a joint bank account but signed by only one person does not qualify as a *joint contribution*. Attribute the full amount of such a check only to the person who signed it. Alternatively, a reattribution may be sought using the procedures described below.)

For the purposes of itemization, report a *joint contribution* as though the joint contributors had given separately.

A *joint contribution* is itemized in items A and B in the illustration on page 57. In this case, the committee received a \$1,000 check from a married couple, signed by both spouses. Because there were no

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