

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

July 20, 2012

**RQ-2** 

RICHARD BRINKLEY, TREASURER AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PREFERRED PROVIDERS ORGANIZATIONS PAC (AAPPO PAC) 222 SOUTH FIRST STREET, SUITE 303 LOUISVILLE, KY 40202

Response Due Date 08/24/2012

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00352922

REFERENCE: MID-YEAR REPORT (01/01/2011 - 06/30/2011)

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  $\underline{4}$  item(s):

**1.** Your report(s) was not signed by the treasurer or designated agent listed on your Statement of Organization (FEC Form 1). 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 been appointed, please file an amended Statement of Organization or a letter (if not an electronic filer) to reflect this change.

2. Your filings disclose that your committee may have satisfied the criteria set forth at 11 CFR §100.5(e)(3) for becoming a multicandidate committee; however, the Commission has no record of a FORM 1M (Notification of Multicandidate Status) filed by your committee. Please be advised that once a political committee meets the certification requirements <u>or</u> becomes affiliated with an existing multicandidate committee, whether or not that political committee has certified its status as a multicandidate committee, it automatically attains multicandidate status and must file a FORM 1M (Notification of Multicandidate Status) within ten (10) calendar days. The certification requirements for multicandidate status have been satisfied when a political committee:

- 1 has received contributions for federal elections from at least 51 persons;
- 2 has been registered with the Commission for at least 6 months; and

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3 - has made contributions to at least five federal candidates.

For further guidance on the multicandidate certification requirements, please see 11 CFR §§102.2(a)(3), 110.2(a)(1) and (2). Please submit a FORM 1M to disclose the required information for the public record. A copy of FEC FORM 1M can be downloaded from the FEC website at <u>http://www.fec.gov</u>, or requested through the FEC Fax line at (202) 501-3413.

**3.** Commission Regulations require that a committee discloses 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 (initials for first or last name are not acceptable), complete mailing address, occupation, and name of employer. (11 CFR § 100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

The following employer and occupation entries appear on your report and are not considered acceptable: "CFMC/CEO," "Info Requested/Info Requested," "SBIPMG/Executive Director," and "ABS/Info Requested."

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)) See 11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)(B) for examples of acceptable statements regarding the requirements of federal law.

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 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 requests must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution,
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of

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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 should 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 amend your report to 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.

**4.** On Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) of the Detailed Summary Page, your report disclosed contributions from individuals that omit the aggregate year-to-date totals. Please amend your report to provide the missing information. (11 CFR \$104.3(a)(4))

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)</u> 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) 694-1173.

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Sincerely,

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Ashley Carter Senior Campaign Finance Analyst Reports Analysis Division

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