



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

May 26, 2020

THOMAS E. MONTGOMERY III, TREASURER
CALIFORNIA FREEDOM & PROSPERITY PAC
(MULTI-CANDIDATE CMTE)
2 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE #4338
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94913-5703

Response Due Date
06/30/2020

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00629147

REFERENCE: YEAR-END REPORT (07/01/2019 - 12/31/2019)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report 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 3 item(s):

1. Schedule A of your report discloses earmarked contributions totaling \$110,000, with no corresponding entries on Schedule B. Pursuant to 11 CFR §110.6(c)(1)(v), all earmarked contributions that have passed through a conduit's account must be itemized on the receipt (Schedule A) and disbursement (Schedule B) schedules, regardless of amount. All earmarked contributions that have been forwarded in the form of the contributor's check or written instrument must be itemized as memo entries on the receipt (Schedule A) and disbursement (Schedule B) schedules, regardless of the amount. Please amend your report to clarify these discrepancies.
2. Schedule A supporting Line 17 (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 52 U.S.C. §30116(f) and 11 CFR §§110.1(d) and 110.2(d) prohibit a committee and its affiliates from receiving any contribution from another political committee or person in excess of \$5,000 per calendar year. However, Commission records indicate that your Committee maintains a Non-Contribution Account consistent with the stipulated judgment in *Carey v. FEC*.

If the apparently excessive contribution(s) in question was deposited into your Non-Contribution Account, please amend your report to disclose the item on Schedule A supporting Line 17 of the Detailed Summary Page and disclose "Non-Contribution Account" in the description field or in memo text. For more

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information please reference the "Reporting Guidance for Political Committees that Maintain and Non-Contribution Account" at <https://www.fec.gov/updates/fec-statement-on-carey-v-fec/>

If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the excessive amount. The funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt, (1) the excessive amount was properly reattributed to another person, such as a joint account holder, by obtaining signed written authorizations from each person making the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR 110.1(k)(3), and (2) the treasurer informs the person making the contribution that he or she may request the return of the excessive portion of the contribution if it is not intended to be a joint contribution. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

Alternatively, the funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt you (1) transferred the excessive 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. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for reattributions or transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount must be refunded.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly by providing the date and method of your remedy (refund, transfer to a non-federal account and/or reattribution) for each contribution. The committee should retain for its records copies of refund checks, transfers to nonfederal account, and/or letters reattributing the contributions in question. In addition, any reattributions should be reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period during which the authorization for the reattribution is received. Any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the acceptance of an excessive contribution(s), prompt action by your committee to seek reattribution, transfer-out or refund the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

3. Schedule A supporting Line 17 (see attached) discloses a receipt(s) from an organization(s) that is not registered with the Commission. 52 U.S.C. §30118 (formerly 2 U.S.C. §441b) prohibits the receipt of funds from national banks, corporations, and labor organizations. However, Commission records indicate

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that your Committee maintains a Non-Contribution Account consistent with the stipulated judgment in Carey v. FEC.

If the amounts in question were deposited into your Committee's Non-Contribution Account, please amend your report to disclose the item on Schedule A supporting Line 17 of the Detailed Summary Page and disclose "Non-Contribution Account" in the description field or in memo text. For more information please reference the "Reporting Guidance for Political Committees that Maintain a Non-Contribution Account" at <https://www.fec.gov/updates/fec-statement-on-carey-v-fec/>

If you have received a prohibited contribution, 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.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly by providing the date and method of your remedy (refund or transfer to a non-federal account) for each contribution. The committee should retain for its records copies of refund checks and transfers to nonfederal account for the contributions in question. In addition, any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report 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.

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. For information about the report

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review process or specific filing information for your committee type, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees. For more information about Requests for Additional Information (RFI), why you received a letter, and how to respond, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/request-additional-information. Should you 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) 694-1295.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremiah R. Hempel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "J".

Jeremiah Hempel
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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Apparent Excessive and Prohibited Contributions**CALIFORNIA FREEDOM PROSPERITY PAC (MULTI-CANDIDATE CMTE) (C00629147)****Apparent Excessive Contributions from Individuals**

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
Hanson, Rondell	9/28/19	\$25,000.00	2019 Year-End
Kim, David S	10/23/19	\$7,500.00	2019 Year-End
Kim, Shelly A	10/23/19	\$7,500.00	2019 Year-End
Stapley, Deborah	9/28/19	\$45,000.00	2019 Year-End

Contributions from Possible Prohibited Entities (Corporations, Labor Organization, LLCs)

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
True Air Mechanical, Inc.	10/11/19	\$25,000.00	2019 Year-End