

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

**RQ-2** 

November 22, 2022

CHAD D. HATCH, TREASURER HEARTLAND VALUES PAC PO BOX 505 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57101

Response Due Date 12/27/2022

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00409003

REFERENCE: OCTOBER QUARTERLY REPORT (07/01/2022 - 09/30/2022)

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 2 item(s):

**1.** A review of the reports filed by your committee indicates that your committee received one or more contributions from "Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers of America Better Government Committee" which has not been disclosed on their report(s) of receipts and disbursements. Please clarify if the contribution(s) was received from the disclosed donor's federal account and amend your report(s) if necessary.

**2.** Schedule B of your report discloses one or more contributions to "Schmitt for Senate" for the retirement of debts incurred by the 2022 Primary election campaign; however, it appears that the recipient committee(s) had insufficient debts to warrant such a contribution. Please note that a committee may only designate contributions to retire a candidate's debts if those debts exist. (11 CFR  $\S$  110.1(b) and 110.2(b))

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

If you have made an impermissible contribution, you must request a refund or provide a written authorization for a redesignation of the contribution within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt.

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations were not met within 60 days of the

## HEARTLAND VALUES PAC

Page 2 of 3

treasurer's receipt, your committee must obtain a refund. (11 CFR \$103.3(b)(1) and (3))

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly by providing the date and method of your remedy (refund or redesignation request) for each contribution. The committee should retain for its records copies of the refund and/or redesignation request(s) sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memo entries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. (11 CFR §110.1(b)).

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this impermissible activity, your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) 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 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 (RFAI), 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) 694-1175.

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## HEARTLAND VALUES PAC

Page 3 of 3

Sincerely,

Sarah Vivian

Sarah Vivian Sr. Campaign Finance & Reviewing Analyst

324