



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

April 6, 2017

MR. JOEL ARENDS, TREASURER  
VETERANS FOR A STRONG AMERICA ACTION  
GROUP  
P.O. BOX 1246  
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57101

**Response Due Date**  
**05/11/2017**

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00521302

REFERENCE: AMENDED 30 DAY POST-GENERAL REPORT (10/01/2016 -  
11/28/2016), RECEIVED 01/31/2017

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. 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 name and occupation entries appear on your report and are not considered acceptable. "Information Requested Per Best efforts / Information Requested Per Best efforts" and "Info Requested Per Best Efforts / Info Requested Per Best Efforts"

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

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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 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.

2. Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why each disbursement was made. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report to clarify the following description(s): "Debt Payment." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursement, please refer to 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3)(i).

Additional clarification regarding inadequate purposes of disbursement published in the Federal Register can be found at [http://www.fec.gov/law/policy/purposeofdisbursement/inadequate\\_purpose\\_list\\_3507.pdf](http://www.fec.gov/law/policy/purposeofdisbursement/inadequate_purpose_list_3507.pdf).

- Schedule B of your report discloses an expenditure(s) for "Postage & Delivery" and "Service Fees-Postage". For your information and consideration when preparing future filings, if a portion or all of these expenditures were for public communications (as defined by 11 CFR §100.26) containing express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, this would constitute an independent expenditure and would be disclosed on a Schedule E supporting Line 24. Public

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communications that refer to a clearly identified Federal candidate, but that do not expressly advocate the election or defeat of that candidate would be reported on Schedule B for Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page.

**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 additional information about the report review process or specific filing information for your committee type, please visit the Reports Analysis Division's Frequently Asked Questions on the FEC website. 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) 694-1139.

Sincerely,



Romy Adame-Wilson  
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division