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## MAINSTREAM PAC

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February 14, 2003

Maureen Benitz, Campaign Finance Analyst Reports Analysis Division Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20463

> RE: <u>Mainstream PAC</u> FEC ID C00343574

Dear Ms. Benitz:

This letter responds to your two letters, each dated February 5, 2003 in reference to our Year End 2001 Report (7/1/01 -- 12/3)/01), October Quanterly Report (7/1/02 to 9/30/02), 12 Day Pre General Report (10/1/02 -- 10/16/02), and 30 Day Post-General Report (10/17/02 -- 11/25/02).

Each letter raised a potential issue about reporting of "administrative expenses" which you apparently believe might have been incurred by the Committee. However, the Committee has reported its activities correctly, to the best of our knowledge.

Unlike larger Committees, Mainstream PAC has always had, and continues to have, a relatively low level of activity. The Committee does not have offices, pay rent, employ staff, own equipment, pay or contract for utilities or phone service, or (except in a few limited circumstances) purchase supplies. The fundraising activities of the Committee are carried out by independent contractors retained from time to time for the purpose of managing events or solicitations. To the limited extent that there have been such activities during the applicable time periods, the expenses are on the reports. As you will note, the Committee has not raised a great deal of money in the applicable time periods, and has not held any events. Therefore, fundraising expenses with independent contractors have been limited to a mail solicitation, the payment for which was shown on the report.

The Committee retains Collins+Day as an independent contractor to prepare reports and handle accounting functions for the Committee. The payments for these services are



Ms. Maureen Benitz: February 14, 2003 Page 2 of 2

all disclosed on the reports in question. As a part of its contracted services for report preparation. Collins+Day receives mail and contributions to the Committee, deposits checks, writes checks for contributions, and handles the books for the organization. The relatively small fees for the relatively low level of service that is currently required are disclosed on the reports under payments to Collins+Day for Report Preparation

If you should have any further questions about these matters, please don't hesitate to contact us at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your continued help and understanding.

Wicki L. Day

VLD:;mchs

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