DONALD M PAYNE JR FOR CONGRESS P.O Box 2406 Newark, NJ 07114

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April 30, 2021

Ms. Denise Stilla Senior Campaign Finance Analyst Reports Analysis Division Federal Election Commission 1050 First Street Washington D.C 20002

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00519355

REFERENCE: 30 DAY POST GENERAL REPORT (10/15/2020 – 11/23/2020).

Dear Ms. Stilla:

We receive the letter dated April 6, 2021, concerning the above-captioned report that raised the following issues:

Apparent Excessive Contributions from Individuals.

1(a)You stated that "Schedule A" disclosed one or more contributions that exceeded the limits permitted by the FEC. Accordingly, we have corrected the error in our report to reflect the proper designation.

Jennifer Stewart's online contribution of \$1,500, received on 7/1/2020, was recorded in the General Election instead of the Primary Election. As a result, her contributions for the General Election exceeded the contribution limit. We have corrected the error, thus bringing the General Election report into compliance.

Apparent Excessive Contributions from Committees

1(b) IBEW PAC Voluntary Fund contributed \$5,000 to our Primary Election; however, due to postal delays caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we did not receive the check until after the Primary Election, thus erroneously classifying it to the General Election. We have corrected the error by reclassifying the check to the Primary Election.

Excessive Contributions to Other Committees

2). You noted that "Schedule B" disclosed one or more contributions that exceeded the contribution limit. Made by us to other committees. To correct this problem, we have taken the following actions:

In the case of the Clarke for Congress committee, they refunded the excessive contribution to us on 11/17/2020. We have sent letters to the following three committees, asking them to redesignated the \$500 excessive contribution to their 2022 Primary Election.

- Citizens for Waters -
- Defrazio for Congress
- Friends of Jahana Hayes -

3) You stated that "Schedule A" disclosed one or more contributions received after the 2020 General Election were recorded in the 2020 General Election.

These contributions were, in fact, recorded correctly. What happened was, our Fundraiser (H & P Consulting) held a campaign event for our2020 General Election. However, instead of the Fundraiser turning over the checks to us before the end of the 2020 Election, accumulated the checks and turned them over to us after the General Election ended. As a result, we inadvertently recorded the checks when our Fundraiser turned over the checks to us, instead of when our Fundraiser received the checks, which were before the Election. Accordingly, we have corrected the error to reflect the dates our Fundraiser received the checks, which was before the 2020 General Election.

We also noted that certain contributions received by our conduit (ACTBLUE) were incorrectly recorded on the dates we received them instead of on the date when the conduit received the contributions. Accordingly, we have corrected our report to reflect the date of receipts by our conduits which were all during the 2020 General Election.

We have updated our procedures over the recording of receipts and the posting of contributions received from our Fundraisers and Conduits to conform to the Federal Election Commission guidelines.

Unregistered Organizations

- 4) You stated that "Schedule A" disclosed a contribution made by the Friends of Ronald Rice may not be registered with the FEC and therefore is not permitted. To correct this problem, To comply with the FEC requirements, we have sent a letter to the local committee, which specifies the following:
 - certification that the committee has sufficient federally permissible funds in its account(s)

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- a certificate that the committee has registered/will register with the FEC if the committee's contribution to the Donald M. Payne Jr. for Congress exceeds \$1,000.
- Certification that the committee will file the requisite Form 3X disclosing the committee's contribution to Donald M. Payne, Jr. for Congress if the donation exceeds \$1,000.

In order to confirm that the contribution is permissible under FEC regulations

48-hour notices

5) You stated that "Schedule A" disclosed that our committee might have failed to file one or more of the required 48-Hour Report notices regarding "last minutes" contributions (to include loans, in-kind donations, and advances)received.

We discovered that our Database Administrator (NGP) failed to alert us timely of the receipt of some online contributions, causing us to miss the deadline for filing the required '48-hour notices. We have worked with our Administrator to notify us via e-mail whenever they receive contributions. We trust this will correct this problem in the future.

6) <u>Contribution by AMAZON PAC</u>

We erroneously filed two 48-Hour notices for a contribution received from AMAZON PAC. Once when we were notified by our Fundraiser on 10/16/2020, and again when we received the actual contribution on 10/22/2020.

. Accordingly, we have corrected the error by amending our report.

7) You stated that "Schedule A' disclosed that contributions earmarked through a conduit failed to disclose required information for a conduit.

The lack of disclosures was an omission on our part. We have corrected the error by providing the required information and disclosures for all contributions received from conduits in the amended return.

Further, we will ensure contributions from another political committee, such as PACS, are recorded on the proper lines in Schedule A and B.

We have filed an amended 30-Day Post-General Election that incorporates all these changes and corrections, and disclosures.

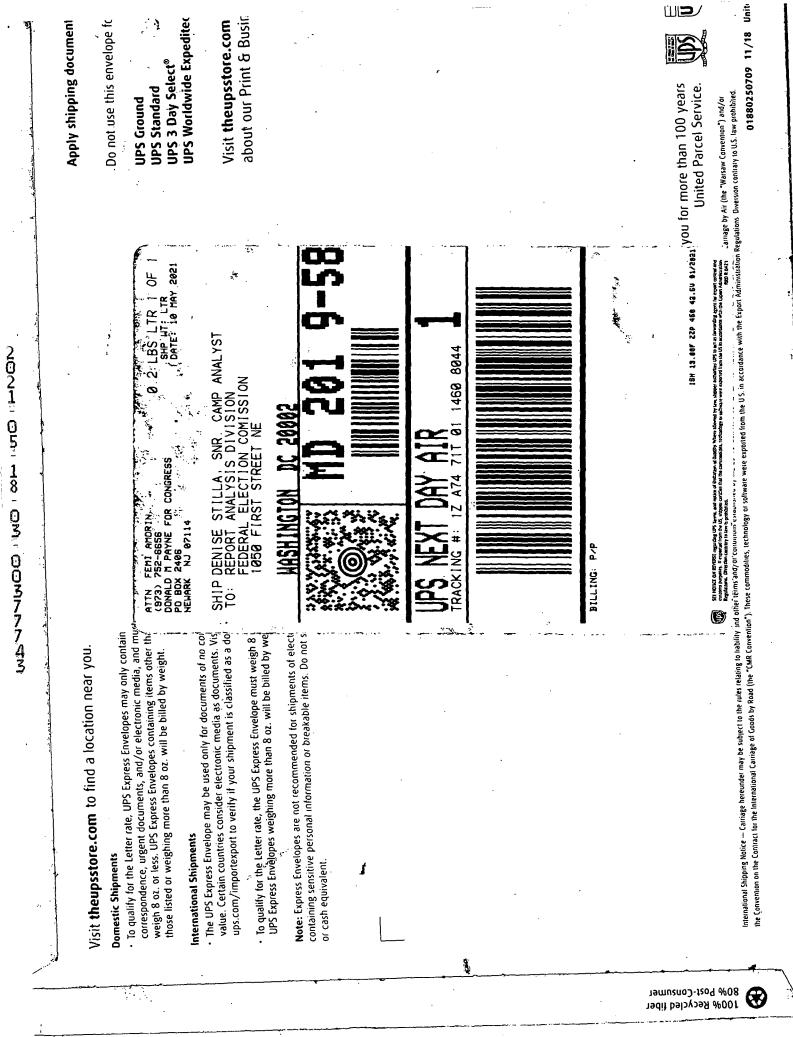
We trust our corrections and explanations resolve the problems identify in your letter.

Sincerely your.

Femi Amorin

For and on behalf of the Treasurer Donald M Payne Jr. for Congress.

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Federal Election Commission ENVELOPE REPLACEMENT PAGE FOR INCOMING DOCUMENTS The FEC added this page to the end of this filing to indicate how it was received.

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