



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

March 16, 2016

MR. WILLIAM PIERCE, TREASURER  
DRAFT BIDEN 2016  
9 WEST WASHINGTON  
CHICAGO, IL 60602

**Response Due Date**

**04/20/2016**

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00574418

REFERENCE: AMENDED YEAR-END REPORT (07/01/2015 - 12/31/2015), RECEIVED  
02/28/2016

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 6 item(s):

1. The totals listed on Line(s) 6(c), 7, 11(a)(i) 11(a)(ii), 11(a)(iii), 11(d), 19, 20, 21(b), 21(c), 31 and 32, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Column B figures for the Summary and Detailed Summary Pages should equal the sum of the Column B figures on your previous report and the Column A figures on this report. Please file an amendment to your report to correct the Column B discrepancies for this report and all subsequent report(s) which may be affected by this correction. Note that Column B should reflect only the Calendar Year-to-Date totals. (52 U.S.C. §30104(b) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)))
2. Your calculations for Line 8 appear to be incorrect. Cash on hand at the close of the current reporting period should always equal the closing calendar year to date cash on hand amount. Please provide the corrected total on the Summary Page. (52 U.S.C. §30104(b) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)))
3. 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): "Consulting Services," "Event," "Events," "Fee," "Office Supplies," and "Services." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursement, please refer to 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3)(i).

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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).

4. Schedule B of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for "Reimbursement-Office Expense," "Reimbursement," "Reimbursement-Event," and "Reimbursement-Office Equipment." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in a calendar year, a memo entry including the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule B, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. If itemization is not necessary, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. 11 CFR § 104.3(b)(3)(i) and 104.9, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3

5. Schedule B discloses reimbursements to individuals for "Reimbursement-Travel." When the reimbursement amount to individuals for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by individuals to any one vendor that make up the reimbursement may have to be itemized. For example, if the related payments to any one vendor aggregate in excess of \$200 for the calendar year, the individual advance payment to the vendor must also be itemized in a memo entry for that reimbursement. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and detailed purpose of the advance. If itemization is not necessary for a particular reimbursement to staff in excess of \$500, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. Please amend your report to include the missing or clarifying information. See Advisory Opinion 1996-20 for additional clarification. (11 CFR § 104.9)

6. On Schedule B supporting Line 21(b), you have itemized disbursements for which you have failed to include the address. Please amend your report to include the missing information. (11 CFR § 104.3(b)(3))

- Schedule B of your report discloses an expenditure(s) for "Advertising," "Postage," "Printing of Signage," "Robocalls," "Promotional Material," "Printing," "TV Advertising," "Advertisement," and "Ad Production." For your information and consideration when preparing future filings, if a portion or all

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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 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. 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) 694-1172.

Sincerely,



Jack Baisden  
Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division