



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

May 29, 2009

Anna Burger, Treasurer
Service Employees International Union
Committee on Political Education (SEIU COPE)
1800 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington, DC 20036

Response Due Date:
June 29, 2009

Identification Number: C00004036

Reference: Amended 12 Day Pre-General Report (10/1/08-10/15/08), received
10/31/08

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) 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 5 items:

1. Your amended report discloses additional receipts totaling \$572,232.48 on Line(s) 11(a)(ii), 15 and 17 of the Detailed Summary Page that were not disclosed on your original report. Please provide clarifying information as to why this activity was not disclosed on your original report. 11 CFR §104.3

2. Schedule E for Line 24 of your report discloses MEMO entries for apparent independent expenditures totaling \$377,673 from "MNP Partners Inc." during this reporting period. However, there is \$134,613 in incurred debts on Schedule D supporting Line 10. Please be advised that if a communication is aired in one reporting period and the payment is made in a later reporting period, the independent expenditure should be reported as a memo entry on Schedule E when the communication is publicly disseminated or distributed, and on a Schedule D if it is a reportable debt under 11 CFR §104.11. Subsequently, when the payment for the independent expenditure is made, the report should show a payment on Schedule E and the same payment on Schedule D, if applicable. Please amend your report to clarify this apparent discrepancy.

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3. Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule B and E supporting Line(s) 21(b) and 24, respectively of your report to clarify the following description(s): **"Consulting and training"** and **"Canvass Staff and Expenses."** For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

4. Schedule B of your report discloses a reimbursement(s) to an individual(s) for apparent travel and subsistence advances in which the total amount reimbursed exceeds \$500. When the reimbursement amount to staff for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by committee staff that make up the reimbursement may have to be itemized. For example, if the related payment(s) to any one vendor by the staff aggregates in excess of \$200 for the calendar year, the payment(s) must be itemized as 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 an adequate purpose. 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 for a particular reimbursement to staff in excess of \$500, you must clarify this in an amendment to this report. 11 CFR §104.9 and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3

5. Schedule B discloses an expenditure(s) for "change the media market for ads" and "polling research." If a portion or all of these expenditures were for public communications (as defined by 11 CFR §100.26) or voter drive activity (under 11 CFR §106.6(b)(2)(i)) containing express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, this would constitute an in-kind contribution or an independent expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B or E supporting Line 23 or 24 as appropriate. Public communications and voter drive activity that refer to a clearly identified Federal candidate, but that do not expressly advocate the election or defeat of that candidate should be reported on Schedule B for Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please clarify whether this activity contained express advocacy and amend your report to properly disclose this activity, if necessary.

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

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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) 694-1152.

Sincerely,



Rosa G. Lewis
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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