



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

August 10, 2005

Drew Smith, Treasurer
Democratic Party of Arkansas
1300 West Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201

**Response Due Date:
September 9, 2005**

Identification Number: C00024372

Reference: July Monthly Report (6/1/05 – 6/30/05)

Dear Mr. Smith:

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. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-The totals listed on Lines 11(a)(i) and 11(a)(ii), Column B of the Detailed Summary Page appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. When an individual's aggregate exceeds the \$200 threshold, the amount should not be deducted from the Column B figure for Line 11(a)(ii). Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Your 2005 May Monthly, June Monthly, and July Monthly Reports, combined, disclose memo Schedule A's totaling \$7,410.95 for "AR Party Victory Fund" and \$11,422.25 for "ASDC Dollars for Democrats," which appear to be your committee's share of the gross contributions received from a joint fundraising committee. However, there are no corresponding transfers-in from the related joint fundraising committee disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 12 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please amend your report(s) to clarify this apparent discrepancy.

-Your 2005 May Monthly, June Monthly, and July Monthly Reports, combined, do not disclose any payments for salary or wages on Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 11 CFR §100.24

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defines as Federal Election Activity, services provided by an employee of a State, district or local party committee who spends more than 25 percent of their time during that month on activities in connection with a Federal election. You are advised that payments for salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25 percent of their compensated time in a given month on Federal Election Activity or activities in connection with a Federal election must be made with Federal funds only. Please provide clarification regarding the lack of payments for salary and wages disclosed by your committee.

-Your report discloses transfers for "transfer for administrative exp," "Transfer for administrative expenses," and "transfer for administrative expenses" to the "Democratic Party - Non Federal Account" which appears to be a non-federal account of your committee. 11 CFR §§106.6 and 106.7 prohibits a committee's federal account from reimbursing its non-federal account for shared allocable expenses. Also, the non-federal account is prohibited from paying the federal account's share of these expenses. These types of costs must be paid according to the allocation ratio derived from the appropriate method on Schedule H1.

If the transfers in question were incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If your non-federal account has paid any expenditures which should have been allocated, you are advised to correct any non-compliance with 11 CFR §§106.6 and 106.7 and establish procedures to insure future compliance with allocation regulations.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses \$3,500.00 in payments for "administrative consulting" to individuals. Please clarify whether these individuals are employees of your committee. You are advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(2), salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time in a given month on Federal election activity or activities in connection with a Federal election must not be allocated between or among federal, non-federal and Levin accounts. Rather, only federal funds may be used. Any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal or Levin account for salary and wage payments is not permissible and must be returned. Please provide clarification regarding these payments.

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "Banquet for JJ Dinner," "Ballrooms for JJ Dinner," "banquet for ASDC meeting," "Banquet rooms for JJ Dinner," "banquet table," "breakfast meeting," "cardstock & copies for Catfish dinner," "catering for meeting," "platform & PA equipment & set up," "rental of tables," and "shuttle bus for ASDC meeting" on Schedules B and H4. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B, E, or F supporting Lines 23, 24, or 25 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

-Please amend your report by providing the address for each disbursement itemized on Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a).

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses payments which are categorized as Administrative expenses; however, they appear to have fundraising purposes (see attached). Please be advised that payments made for your committee's fundraising activities must be allocated according to the funds received method and the ratio reflected on Schedule H2. Please amend your report to clarify the appropriate category for this activity or provide clarifying information regarding this apparent discrepancy.

-Schedule H4 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 have to be itemized as memo entries regardless of the amount. 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. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for "desk & chair," "file folders pads pen etc," "generic ad in program," "mail package," "paper pens etc," and "reimb for telephone." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, payment to the original vendors must be itemized as memo entries regardless of amount. Each memo entry must include 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. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3

-On Schedule H4, your allocated activity or event year-to-date total calculations for the Administrative category are incorrect. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for administrative, voter drive, exempt activity costs and expenses for public communications made by PACs referencing only political parties are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for each separate category. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for fundraising and direct candidate support activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a category or event to the previous event year-to-date total for that category or event. This running event year-to-date total should be disclosed after each disbursement is listed. Please amend your report by providing the correct event year-to-date totals.

-The loan schedule (Schedule C) should disclose the following information: the name and mailing address of the person making or receiving the loan, original amount, cumulative payment, outstanding balance, date incurred, date due, and interest rate for all loans that your committee has received. Please amend Schedule C by providing the date due. 11 CFR §§104.3(d) and 104.11(a)

-Your report discloses a loan from a lending institution; however, you have not submitted a paper C-1 and copy of the loan agreement. As an electronic filer, you must submit the Schedule C-1 electronically without the original signature from the lending institution. In addition, you must mail a copy of the loan agreement and a separate copy of the Schedule C-1 that contains the original signature from the lending institution. Please submit the missing documents. (11 CFR §§104.3(d)(2) and 104.18(h))

-The supporting schedule for loans and lines of credit from lending institutions (Schedule C-1) must include the name and address of the lender, amount, interest rate, date incurred, date due, the treasurer's signature, and the signature of an authorized representative of the lending institution, along with a copy of the loan agreement. In addition, it may be necessary to provide information regarding restructured loans, draws on lines of credit, secondary sources of repayment, traditional collateral, future receipts as collateral and other means of obtaining loans according to your activity. Please amend Schedule C-1 and any other affected schedules to provide date due. 11 CFR §§100.82 and 100.142

-Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) of your report discloses receipts identified as "Below Limit - Not Required." Please be advised that federal regulations require the itemization of all contributions from

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individuals/persons that aggregate greater than \$200 in the calendar year. Contributions from individuals/persons that aggregate \$200 or less need only be disclosed on Line 11(a)(ii) of the Detailed Summary Page.

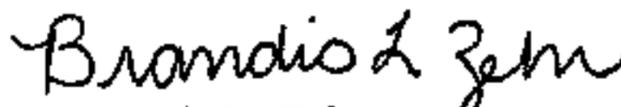
Please clarify whether the receipts disclosed on Schedule A includes any contributions that aggregate greater than \$200 from an individual/person in the calendar year. If this is the case, please amend your report by itemizing the contributions from each individual/person on Schedule A. 11 CFR §104.3(a)(2)

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses several entries which include the acronym "ASDC." Please be advised that when referencing an organization in a purpose, abbreviating the name of the organization so it is unrecognizable, or using an indistinguishable acronym is inadequate. Please provide further clarification regarding these initials in order to better clarify the public record. For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. 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.

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) 694-1148.

Sincerely,



Brandis L. Zehr
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

Vendor	Purpose
Little Rock Advertising & Promotions	Ballrooms for JJ Dinner
Little Rock Club	banquet for ASDC meeting
The Peabody Little Rock	Banquet rooms for JJ Dinner
APRI	banquet table
Velda Rose Resort Hotel	breakfast meeting
Fedex Kinko's	cardstock & copies for Catfish dinner
Post Script Consulting, LLC	catering for meetng
Bylites, Inc. Production Services	platform & PA equipment & set up
Ad Craft of Arkansas, Inc	rental of tables
Little Rock Tours Inc	shuttle bus for ASDC meeting

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