



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

March 27, 2009

Peter Leitner, Treasurer
The National Republican Trust PAC
2100 M Street, NW, Suite 170-340
Washington, DC 20037-1233

Response Due Date:
April 27, 2009

Identification Number: C00455378

Reference: 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report (10/16/08 – 11/12/08)

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 6 items:

1. Schedule A of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions from an organization which is not a political committee registered with the Commission. In order for your committee to accept contributions from unregistered organizations into accounts used to influence federal elections, your committee should take steps to insure that the contributor(s) used permissible funds to make the contribution(s) to avoid violating 2 U.S.C. §§441a(f) and 441b or 11 CFR §102.5(b). Under 11 CFR §102.5(b), organizations which are not political committees under the Act and choose to contribute to federal committees must either: 1) establish a separate account which contains only those funds permitted under the Act, or 2) demonstrate through a reasonable accounting method that the organization has received sufficient funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions in order to make the contribution.

If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. In addition, please clarify whether the contribution(s) received from the referenced organization(s) is permissible.

To the extent that your committee has received prohibited funds, you may have to make a refund. If within 30 days of receipt you (1) transferred the

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prohibited amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund, you may retain the contribution in an account not used to influence federal elections. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 30 days of receipt, the prohibited amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR §103.3(b)(1).

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. Should you choose to transfer-out or refund the contribution(s), the Commission will presume the funds were impermissible if no statement from your committee provides information to the contrary. Transfers-out and refunds should be disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report covering the period during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, prompt action by your committee in transferring-out or refunding the amounts will be taken into consideration.

2. Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) of your report discloses negative entries for the apparent refunds of contributions originally received by your committee. Please be advised that if your committee wrote refund checks from your account, these disbursements should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 28 of the Detailed Summary Page. Negative entries on Schedule A should only be used to disclose voided checks that were not cashed or cleared by a bank. This method of reporting would clarify for the public record the total amount of receipts/disbursements and more accurately disclose the cash-on-hand amount. Please amend your report(s) to properly disclose this activity or provide clarifying information.

3. Please clarify all expenditures made for "Food & Beverage" on Schedule B. 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 or E supporting Lines 23 or 24 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

4. Schedule B discloses expenditure(s) for "Telephone Communications." 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

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§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.

5. Schedule E of your report indicates that your committee may have failed to timely file one or more of the required 24 hour notices regarding "last minute" independent expenditures (see attached). A political committee must file a 24 hour report with the Federal Election Commission as specified in 11 CFR §104.4(c), within 24 hours of any independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more with respect to a given election, made between two and twenty days before an election. The notice must be received by the Commission by 11:59 p.m. on the day following the date on which independent expenditures that aggregate \$1,000 or more are publicly distributed or disseminated. These expenditures must then be fully itemized on Schedule E, or as memo entries on Schedule E and reflected on Schedule D if distributed or disseminated prior to payment, of the next report required to be filed by the committee. Although the Commission may take further action concerning this matter, your prompt response will be taken into consideration. 11 CFR §104.3(b)

6. Schedule E of your report discloses the Calendar Year-To-Date Per Election for Office Sought totals for Barack Obama and C. Saxby Chambliss to be \$7,974,274.42 and \$85.00, respectively. However, these amounts appear to be incorrect. Please amend your report to clarify these discrepancies.

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

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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) 694-1162.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Butler', with a large circular flourish at the end.

David Butler
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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Receipt from an Unregistered Organization

Contributor Name	Date	Amount
Manatee County Republican Party	11/03/08	\$5,000

Missing 24 Hour Notice

Name of Payee	Date	Amount	Purpose	Candidate
Intermarkets, Inc.	10/18/08	\$1,600	Banner Ads	Barack Obama

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