



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

RQ-2

June 5, 2024

MR. BRIAN R. LOHMANN, TREASURER
SUGAR CANE GROWERS COOPERATIVE OF FLORIDA (PAC)
PO BOX 666
BELLE GLADE, FL 33430

Response Due Date

07/10/2024

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00254656

REFERENCE: MAY MONTHLY REPORT (04/01/2024 - 04/30/2024)

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 4 item(s):

1. Your report(s) was not signed by the treasurer or designated agent listed on your Statement of Organization (FEC Form 1). Please amend your report(s) by providing the signature of an individual that is authorized to sign the report(s). If a new treasurer has been appointed, please file an amended Statement of Organization or a letter (if not an electronic filer) to reflect this change. (52 U.S.C. §30104(a)(1) and 11 CFR §104.14(a) and (d))
2. Schedule A of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. Please be advised that 52 U.S.C. §30116(f) and 11 CFR §§110.1(d) and 110.2(d) prohibit a committee and its affiliates from receiving any contribution from another political committee or person in excess of \$5,000 per calendar year.

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information.

If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the excessive amount. The funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt, (1) the excessive amount was properly reattributed to another person, such as a joint account holder, by obtaining signed written authorizations from each person making the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR 110.1(k)(3), and (2) the treasurer informs the person making the contribution that he or she may request the return

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of the excessive portion of the contribution if it is not intended to be a joint contribution. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

Alternatively, the funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt you (1) transferred the excessive 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. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for reattributions or transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount must be refunded.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly by providing the date and method of your remedy (refund, transfer to a non-federal account and/or reattribution) for each contribution. The committee should retain for its records copies of refund checks, transfers to nonfederal account, and/or letters reattributing the contributions in question. In addition, any reattributions should be reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period during which the authorization for the reattribution is received. Any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the acceptance of an excessive contribution(s), prompt action by your committee to seek reattribution, transfer-out or refund the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

3. Schedule B supporting Line 23 discloses one or more contributions to a candidate(s) for the 2024 Primary election; however, the funds were disbursed after the election date(s) (see attached). Please note that contributions may not be designated for an election which has already occurred unless the funds are to be used to reduce a candidate committee's debts incurred during that election campaign. (11 CFR §§110.1(b)(3) and 110.2(b)(3))

If any apparently impermissible contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If the contribution(s) in question should have been designated for debt retirement, you should amend your report to indicate "debt retirement," along with the year of election.

If you have made an impermissible contribution, you must request a refund or

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provide a written authorization for a redesignation of the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR §110.2(b) within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt.

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations were not met within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt, your committee must obtain a refund. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1) and (3))

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly by providing the date and method of your remedy (refund or redesignation request) for each contribution. The committee should retain for its records copies of the refund and/or redesignation request(s) sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memo entries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. (11 CFR §110.1(b))

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this impermissible activity, your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

4. On Schedule B, you have disclosed disbursements to federal candidate committees. Commission regulations require that these itemized disbursements include the recipient's full name, complete address, date, amount, state of election, office sought (House, Senate, or President), and district (if applicable). Please amend your report to include the state of election, office sought, and district. (11 CFR §104.3 (b)(3))

- Your report discloses certain categories of financial activity that have been reflected on the wrong lines of the Detailed Summary Page. For your information and consideration when preparing future filings, contributions from other political committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule A, supporting Line 11(c) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing. (52 U.S.C. §30104(b) and FORM 3X Instructions)

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**

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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. For information about the report review process or specific filing information for your committee type, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees. For more information about Requests for Additional Information (RFAI), why you received a letter, and how to respond, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/request-additional-information. Should you 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) 694-1622.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron Carrell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Aaron Carrell
Campaign Finance Analyst

Apparent Impermissible, Excessive, and Prohibited Contributions
SUGAR CANE GROWERS COOPERATIVE OF FLORIDA (PAC) (C00254656)

Apparent Excessive Contributions from Individuals

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
Burns, Richard H. Jr.	4/4/24	\$3,100.00	2024 May Monthly
Burns, Richard H. Jr.	4/4/24	\$5,000.00	2024 May Monthly
Sobie, Justin G,	4/4/24	\$5,000.00	2024 May Monthly
Sobie, Justin G,	4/4/24	\$5,000.00	2024 May Monthly

Apparent Contributions Made After Election Date

Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Election (State-Date)
BALDERSON FOR CONGRESS	4/4/24	\$500.00	P2024	OH - 3/19/2024
LAHOOD FOR CONGRESS	4/4/24	\$500.00	P2024	IL - 3/19/2024
MIKE BOST FOR CONGRESS CO	4/4/24	\$500.00	P2024	IL - 3/5/2024
TERRI SEWELL FOR CONGRESS	4/4/24	\$500.00	P2024	AL - 3/5/2024
VALADAO FOR CONGRESS	4/4/24	\$500.00	P2024	CA - 3/5/2024
WESTERMAN FOR CONGRESS	4/4/24	\$500.00	P2024	AR - 3/5/2024
YOUNG KIM FOR CONGRESS	4/4/24	\$500.00	P2024	CA - 3/5/2024