



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

April 12, 2017

DAN BACKER, TREASURER
THE COMMITTEE TO DEFEND THE
PRESIDENT
203 SOUTH UNION STREET STE 300
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

Response Due Date
05/17/2017

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00544767

REFERENCE: AMENDED 12 DAY PRE-RUN-OFF REPORT (10/20/2016 -
11/20/2016), RECEIVED 02/22/2017

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 5 item(s):

1. Your filings disclose that your committee may have satisfied the criteria set forth at 11 CFR §100.5(e)(3) for becoming a multicandidate committee; however, the Commission has no record of a complete FORM 1M (Notification of Multicandidate Status) filed by your committee. Please be advised that once a political committee meets the certification requirements **or** becomes affiliated with an existing multicandidate committee, whether or not that political committee has certified its status as a multicandidate committee, it automatically attains multicandidate status and must file a FORM 1M (Notification of Multicandidate Status) within ten (10) calendar days. The certification requirements for multicandidate status have been satisfied when a political committee:

- 1 - has received contributions for federal elections from at least 51 persons;
- 2 - has been registered with the Commission for at least 6 months; and
- 3 - has made contributions to at least five federal candidates.

For further guidance on the multicandidate certification requirements, please see 11 CFR §§102.2(a)(3), 110.2(a)(1) and (2). Please submit a FORM 1M to disclose the required information for the public record. A copy of FEC FORM 1M can be downloaded from the FEC website at <http://www.fec.gov>, or requested through the FEC Fax line at (202) 501-3413.

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2. 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): CAREY ACCT: ONLINE SERVICES" and "CAREY ACCT: STAFF SERVICES." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursement, please refer to 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3)(i).

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.

3. Schedule B supporting Line 29 of your 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report (10/20/16 – 11/20/16) discloses payment(s) to "DB CAPITOL STRATEGIES" for "CAREY ACCT: REIMBURSEMENTS (SEE BELOW AND SCHED E)" that appear to correspond to previously disclosed Independent Expenditures. 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. (11 CFR §104.4)

4. Schedule E supporting Line 24 of your report discloses an independent expenditure(s) in opposition to "CLINTON, HILLARY" which appears to have been publicly disseminated or distributed after the general election date. 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. 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 provide further clarifying information regarding the independent expenditure(s) disclosed after the general election date.

5. Schedule E supporting Line 24 of your 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report (10/20/16 - 11/20/16) discloses apparent independent expenditures made in opposition to

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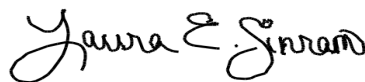
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"HILLARY CLINTON" during this reporting period. However, neither a memo Schedule E nor a Schedule D supporting Line 10 have been provided. Please be advised that if a communication is aired in one reporting period and the payment is made in a later 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. (11 CFR §104.4)

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. For additional information about the report review process or specific filing information for your committee type, please visit the Reports Analysis Division's Frequently Asked Questions on the FEC website. 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) 694-1157.

Sincerely,



Laura Sinram
Sr. Campaign Finance & Reviewing Analyst
Reports Analysis Division