

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

October 31, 2022

LARRY OLSEN, TREASURER SOUTH DAKOTA DEMOCRATIC PARTY -FEDERAL P.O. BOX 1485 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57101

Response Due Date 12/05/2022

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00160937

REFERENCE: AUGUST MONTHLY REPORT (07/01/2022 - 07/31/2022)

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  $\underline{2}$  item(s):

**1.** Your calculations for Line 8 appear to be incorrect. Cash on hand at the close of the current reporting period should always equal the closing calendar year to date cash on hand amount. Please provide the corrected total on the Summary Page. (52 U.S.C. §30104(b))

2. Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses a payments for "Salary and Travel." Please be 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 (FEA) or activities in connection with a Federal election must not be allocated between or among federal and non-federal accounts. Rather, only federal funds may be used. Further, the Commission concluded in Advisory Opinion 2003-11 that amounts spent for employee-specific "fringe benefits," consisting of health insurance, disability insurance, life insurance, retirement benefits and payroll taxes, fall into the category of compensated time.

Please clarify whether this activity is for employees who spent 25% or less of their time during the month(s) referenced above on FEA or activities in connection with a Federal election. If this is not the case, any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for this payment is not permissible and must be returned. Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding any improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into

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## consideration.

- 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, transfers-in from the non-federal account for allocated activity should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule H3, supporting Line 18(a) of the Detailed Summary Page, transfers-in from the Levin account for Levin activity should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule H5, supporting line 18(b) of the Detailed Summary Page, allocated Levin activity should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule H6, supporting line 30(a) of the Detailed Summary Page, and shared federal/non-federal operating expenses should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule H4, supporting line 21(a) 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 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) 694-1173.

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Sincerely,

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Kevin McQueen Sr. Campaign Finance & Reviewing Analyst

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