



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

July 17, 2016

ROBERT H. FRANK, TREASURER
THE 2016 COMMITTEE
370 MAPLE AVENUE W SUITE 4
VIENNA, VA 22180-5615

Response Due Date

08/22/2016

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00569905

REFERENCE: APRIL QUARTERLY REPORT (01/01/2016 - 03/31/2016)

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 **10** item(s):

1. Schedule A supporting Line 15 of your report discloses an offset to an operating expenditure(s) totaling \$5,000 from "ALLEN BRANDSTATER ASSOCIATES"; however, previous reports filed by your committee only disclose a total of \$2,858 in disbursements to this entity. Please provide clarifying information regarding this activity and amend your report(s) if necessary. (11 CFR §104.3(a) & (b))
2. On Schedule B supporting Line 21(b), you have itemized disbursements for which you have failed to include the complete address. Please amend your report to include the missing information. (11 CFR § 104.3(b)(3))
3. 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): "ACCOUNTS PAYABLE," "AGENCY FEE," "AGENCY FEE - ONLINE," "AGENCY FEES - CONSULTING," "BACK-END COST," "CONSULTING," "FULFILLMENT ITEMS," "ONLINE STORE SALES," "OTHER - DATA CENTER INVOICE," and "TRANSFER - CLIENT DESIGNATED RECIPIENT." 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

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published in the Federal Register can be found at http://www.fec.gov/law/policy/purposeofdisbursement/inadequate_purpose_list_3507.pdf.

4. Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) discloses disbursements to credit card companies. When reporting payments to credit card companies, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in a calendar year, you must itemize the name of the original vendor, address, date, amount, and purpose as a memo entry as well as clearly identify the credit card payment to which each memo entry relates. Please amend your report to include the missing information or provide clarifying information if memo items are not required. (11 CFR § 104.9)

5. Schedule B of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for "MEALS & ENTERTAINMENT," "OFFICE SUPPLIES," "PRINTING AND COPYING," "REIMBURSED EXPENSE," and "RENT." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in a calendar year, a memo entry including 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 and clearly identify on the Schedule B, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. If itemization is not necessary, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. 11 CFR §§104.3(b)(3)(i) and 104.9, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3

6. Schedule B discloses reimbursements to individuals for "TRAVEL," "TRAVEL - AIRFARE," "TRAVEL - AIRFARE & LODGING," "TRAVEL - AIRFARE & MILEAGE," "TRAVEL - AIRFARE, LODGING, & MILEAGE," "TRAVEL - LODGING," "TRAVEL - LODGING & MILEAGE," "TRAVEL - LODGING & SUPPLIES," and "TRAVEL - LODGING, MEALS, & MILEAGE." When the reimbursement amount to individuals for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by individuals to any one vendor that make up the reimbursement may have to be itemized. For example, if the related payments to any one vendor aggregate in excess of \$200 for the calendar year, the individual advance payment to the vendor must also be itemized in a memo entry for that reimbursement. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and detailed purpose of the advance. If itemization is not necessary for a particular reimbursement to staff in excess of \$500, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. Please amend your

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report to include the missing or clarifying information. See Advisory Opinion 1996-20 for additional clarification. (11 CFR § 104.9)

7. Itemized independent expenditures must include a brief statement or description of why the expenditures were made. Please amend Schedule E of your report to clarify the following description(s): "AGENCY FEES - CONSULTING," and "AGENCY FEES - ONLINE." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

8. The independent expenditure schedule (Schedule E) should disclose the following information: the name and mailing address of the payee, the purpose of the expenditure, the date of payment, the amount of payment, the name and office sought, state and district (if applicable) of the federal candidate, the calendar year-to-date, per election, for office sought total, the election designation, an indication of whether the candidate was supported or opposed and the signature of the treasurer. Please amend Schedule E by providing the state. (11 CFR §104.3(b)(3)(vii)) Please be advised that each State's Presidential primary is considered a separate election for purposes of aggregating independent expenditures. Advisory Opinion 2003-40.

9. Your committee filed 48 hour reports informing the Commission of independent expenditures made in support or opposition of federal candidates with "SAVANNA COMMUNICATIONS, LLC" and "CLEAR CHANNEL OUTDOOR" as the payee(s). However, the amounts and dates of public dissemination disclosed on these reports do not appear to correlate with the entries on Schedule E, supporting Line 24 for the reporting period. If your committee has filed 48 hour reports supporting independent expenditures not reflected on your reports, you must file Schedule E during the appropriate reporting period to disclose these payments. Please amend your report to clarify this discrepancy and provide further information concerning these reports. (11 CFR §104.4)

10. Schedule E of your report indicates that your committee may have failed to timely file one or more of the required 24 hour report(s) 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 report 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

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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))

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 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) 694-1172.

Sincerely,



Jack Baisden
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

**Late 24 Hour Report (Schedule E)
The 2016 Committee (C00569905)**

Name of Payee	Dissemination Date	Amount	*Amount Per State	Candidate	Election	Report Received
USPS	1/22/16	\$1,000.00	\$19.61	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
CAMPAIGN FUNDING DIRECT	1/26/16	\$295.00	\$5.78	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
CHOCKLETT PRESS	1/26/16	\$20,956.65	\$410.91	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
CP DIRECT	1/26/16	\$12,492.50	\$244.95	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
ECG DATA CENTER	1/26/16	\$5,911.71	\$115.92	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
ECG DATA CENTER	1/26/16	\$1,088.88	\$21.35	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
INTERNATIONAL DATA MANAGEMENT, INC.	1/26/16	\$1,851.22	\$36.30	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
OMEGA LIST COMPANY	1/26/16	\$10,483.55	\$205.56	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
RST MARKETING	1/26/16	\$3,800.00	\$74.51	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
SISK FULFILLMENT SERVICES	1/26/16	\$17,974.52	\$352.44	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
RST MARKETING	1/28/16	\$14,300.00	\$280.39	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
USPS	1/28/16	\$925.00	\$18.14	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
VALTIM	1/28/16	\$50,400.00	\$988.24	DR. BEN CARSON	P2016	5/2/16
SAVANNA COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	2/16/16	\$55,000.00		DR. BEN CARSON	SC - P2016	2/18/16
SAVANNA COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	2/16/16	\$5,500.00		DR. BEN CARSON	SC - P2016	2/18/16

*Schedule E discloses independent expenditures for which no state has been provided; however, 24-Hour Reports filed by your committee indicate these were disseminated on a nationwide basis and provide the following allocation amounts for the remaining primary elections.