



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-3

May 30, 2002

Dan Cohen, Treasurer
Association of Trial Lawyers of America
Political Action Committee
1050 31st Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

Identification Number: C00024521

Reference: 12 Day Pre-Special General Report (7/1/01-9/5/01)

Dear Mr. Cohen:

This letter is to inform you that as of May 29, 2002 the Commission has not received your response to our request for additional information, dated May 8, 2002. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. To ensure compliance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act (the Act), please respond to this request (copy enclosed).

An adequate response must be received at the Commission by June 19, 2002. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. 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.

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 have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Alice Kang on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division), our local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

John D. Gibson
Assistant Staff Director
Reports Analysis Division

Enclosure



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

Dan Cohen, Treasurer
Association of Trial Lawyers of America
Political Action Committee
1050 31st Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

MAY 08 2002

Identification Number: C00024521

Reference: 12 Day Special Pre-Primary Report (7/1/01-9/5/01)

Dear Mr. Cohen:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your Amended Mid-Year Report dated 1/30/02. Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-The totals listed on Lines 6(c) and 11(a)(iii), Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Schedule A of your report discloses aggregate year-to-date totals for contributions received from individuals which appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that federal regulations require aggregate year-to-date totals to include only those contributions which are received during the calendar year. In the event that the aggregate year-to-date total is correct, please note that federal regulations also require the disclosure of all contributions received from individuals who have contributed over \$200. 11 CFR §104.3(a)(4) Please amend your report to provide the correct aggregate year-to-date totals.

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COMMITTEE

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-Your report discloses memo entries from partnerships; however, it appears that the partnership receipts have been omitted from this report. Partnership contributions are included in the total figure reported for "contributions from individuals/persons other than political committees" on the Detailed Summary Page. If a partnership contribution exceeds \$200 or aggregates over \$200 during a calendar year, the committee must itemize the contribution on a Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i). Please amend your report to clarify this discrepancy.

-You have received contributions from numerous entities, which appear to be unincorporated proprietorships or partnerships. Generally, these types of contributions are to be attributed to each person based on their percentage of ownership in the firm. Each person who has contributed in excess of \$200 since January 1 should be identified by name, address, occupation, name of employer, amount of contribution, and aggregate total on Schedule A. 11 CFR §110.1(k) Please amend your report by providing the omitted information.

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written

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request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2))

The request must:

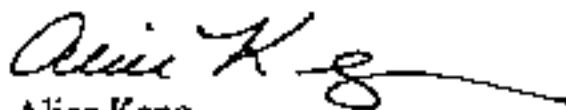
- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

A response or amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. 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 need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,



Alice Kang
Reports Analyst
Report Analysis Division

STERN, GUY, 1971