

MISCELLANEOUS REPORT TO THE FEC (FEC Form 99)

NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)

FEC IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

THE EXISTENTIALIST REPUBLIC PAC

C00941401

Mailing Address 382 NE 191ST ST PMB 38181

City State ZIP Code
MIAMI FL 38181

The Existentialist Republic PAC submits this Miscellaneous Report under 11 CFR 102.7 and Commission guidance on the disclosure of misappropriated committee funds, to advise the Commission of discovered misappropriation involving the committee's former Treasurer and Custodian of Records.

The committee filed its original Statement of Organization with the Commission on March 2, 2026, listing Clifford Michael Pickens of 1035 S Storment Lane, Gilbert, Arizona 85296 as Treasurer and Custodian of Records.

During Mr. Pickens's tenure as Treasurer, he represented to the committee on more than twelve separate occasions over a period of approximately eight weeks, in person, by telephone, and by text message, that he had been unable to open a depository bank account on the committee's behalf, specifically representing on multiple occasions that banks had denied applications he claimed to have submitted on the committee's behalf. At an in-person meeting during that period, Mr. Pickens further represented to Mr. Armitage that he would open such an account as soon as possible. During the same period, Mr. Pickens left most other committee communications unanswered over a span of weeks, leaving committee leadership unable to obtain financial records, account information, or status updates on committee funds.

On May 9, 2026, Mr. Armitage contacted ActBlue Civics support with an urgent inquiry regarding committee checks that had been issued but could not be located or accounted for, requesting that ActBlue determine which checks had been cashed and cancel any outstanding instruments. On May 15, 2026, the committee filed an amended Statement of Organization removing Mr. Pickens from both roles and designating Christopher Armitage in his place. From the effective date of that amendment forward, Mr. Pickens holds no authority to receive, hold, deposit, endorse, or disburse any funds belonging to the committee.

Between March 23, 2026 and May 1, 2026, ActBlue Civics issued eight checks payable to the committee that cleared the issuing bank: Check 401890151 dated March 8 for \$3,964.74; Check 401893849 dated March 15 for \$629.08; Check 401907030 dated March 22 for \$374.58; Check 401913752 dated March 29 for \$312.16; Check 401925531 dated April 5 for \$1,560.81; Check 401920110 dated March 31 for \$22.09; Check 401933418 dated April 12 for \$335.16; and Check 401937289 dated April 19 for \$240.12. The total of these eight checks is \$7,438.74. ActBlue Civics mailed each check to the committee's then-registered address of record, 1035 S Storment Lane, Gilbert, Arizona 85296, which is Mr. Pickens's personal address.

The committee has never authorized any depository account at any institution. Mr. Pickens, as the committee's sole officer during the period in question, made no disclosure to the committee that he had opened any depository account on its behalf, and instead, as noted above, represented to committee leadership that he had been unable to do so.

The committee subsequently discovered, through the information described below, that Mr. Pickens had in fact opened a banking relationship at Coastal Community Bank and had cashed the ActBlue checks payable to the committee at that institution, without committee notification, authorization, or consent, and while continuing to represent to the committee that no such account existed.

On May 17, 2026, committee counsel served Mr. Pickens with a formal demand letter by certified mail, email, and text, calling for an accounting and return of the funds. The letter required acknowledgment within five business days and return of funds within fourteen calendar days. Both windows have lapsed without any response from Mr. Pickens.

On May 29, 2026, ActBlue Civics confirmed through its bank that the eight checks above cleared at Coastal Community Bank, provided check images for each instrument, and asked the committee to confirm whether the committee held

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or had ever held an account at Coastal Community Bank. The committee confirmed in writing the same day that it has never opened, held, or authorized any account at Coastal Community Bank, that it has no banking relationship with that institution, and that no officer of the committee authorized the deposit of those checks. The committee has preserved ActBlue's correspondence and the check images and will provide both to the Commission on request.

The committee treats this matter as discovered misappropriation of committee funds within the meaning of Commission guidance. The committee has filed or is in the process of filing complaints with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, and the Office of the Arizona Attorney General under Arizona statutes including A.R.S. 13-1802 (theft) and 13-2310 (fraudulent schemes and artifices). The committee is preparing a civil action in Maricopa County Superior Court for civil conversion, breach of fiduciary duty, and unjust enrichment, and reserves all rights and remedies available under federal and state law.

The committee respectfully requests two actions from the Commission. First, acknowledgment of receipt of this report and advice on whether further disclosure or amendment of the committee's regular periodic reports is required at this stage. Second, the committee asks the Commission to determine whether Mr. Pickens currently serves or has recently served as Treasurer, Custodian of Records, Assistant Treasurer, or in any other fiduciary capacity for any other committee registered with the Commission, and if so, to provide appropriate notice to those committees so their officers can take any protective action they consider necessary.

The committee will file its next regularly required periodic report on schedule, reflecting the discrepancy as unrecovered receipts pending criminal and civil disposition, and will continue to file amendments and supplemental reports as additional facts develop.