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NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)  
The Committee To Defend The President

FEC IDENTIFICATION NUMBER  
C00544767

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The Committee responds to the four (4) RFAIs received on December 20, 2019, and with a response date of January 23, 2020, as follows:

1.October Monthly Report. This RFAI relates Schedule E and the provided Memo entries on the applicable Report. All Memo entries on Schedule E of the Report relate to anticipated and budgeted Independent Expenditure disbursements for the months of September and are labeled as estimated transactions. When the anticipated disbursement to a specified vendor occurred, the Committee filed a 48-Hour Independent Expenditure Report as required and included the transaction ID number of the estimate it relates to so the disbursement could be tied back to the relevant estimate. These Memo entries were only anticipated disbursements and there are instances where the planned communications did not occur and therefore such funds were not actually expended. In the event an invoice arrived after the close of books for the relevant reporting period, the Committee would file a 48-Hour Independent Expenditure Report as required and again include language that tied the expenditure back to the applicable estimate in the relevant month. The Committee cannot report debts for invoices that have not been received during the reporting period. After speaking with the Committee's RAD analyst, the Committee filed a Form 99 on December 6, 2019 outlining those estimated IE transactions that were not ultimately executed. The Committee is now including this information on its regularly filed Reports.

2.November Monthly Report. (a) The first item provided in the RFAI relates to Schedule E and the provided Memo entries on the applicable Report. All Memo entries on Schedule E of the Report relate to anticipated and budgeted Independent Expenditure disbursements for the months of October and are labeled as estimated transactions. When the anticipated disbursement to a specified vendor occurred, the Committee filed a 48-Hour Independent Expenditure Report as required and included the transaction ID number of the estimate it relates to so the disbursement could be tied back to the relevant estimate. These Memo entries were only anticipated disbursements and there are instances where the planned communications did not occur and therefore such funds were not actually expended. In the event an invoice arrived after the close of books for the relevant reporting period, the Committee would file a 48-Hour Independent Expenditure Report as required and again include language that tied the expenditure back to the applicable estimate in the relevant month. The Committee cannot report debts for invoices that have not been received during the reporting period. After speaking with the Committee's RAD analyst, the Committee filed a Form 99 on December 6, 2019 outlining those estimated IE transactions that were not ultimately executed. The Committee is now including this information on its regularly filed Reports. (b) The second item in the RFAI relates to Schedule E and the requests the Committee amend the Report to disclose the state for an independent expenditure. The relevant Schedule E entry properly specified the expenditures were made in connection with the "2020 Democratic Convention." FECA defines the term "election," in relevant part, as including "a convention . . . of a political party which has the authority to nominate a candidate." 52 U.S.C. section 30101(1)(B); see also 11 C.F.R. section 100.2(e) ("A caucus or convention of a political party is an election if the caucus or convention has the authority to select a nominee for federal office on behalf of party."). The 2020 Democratic National Convention has the authority to nominate the Democratic Party of the United States' nominee for the office of President. Thus, the 2020 Democratic Convention qualified as an "election" for purposes of FECA, and the Report is accurate.

3.48-Hour Independent Expenditure Report filed