



Greta Grass <gretagrass@yahoo.com> on 10/08/2003 09:03:28 AM

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COMMISSION
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2003 OCT -8 A 9:06

To: mdove@fec.gov, mdinh@fec.gov, rknop@fec.gov
cc:

Subject: RE: AO 2003-23 Decision

Dear FEC:

"A political, professional and social network that inspires and facilitates the involvement of women in the political process."

"Creating a voice for small donors by building small contributions into donations that have a significant impact on electoral politics."

These are statements used to describe Women Engaged in Leadership, Education and Action in Democracy - or WE LEAD. However, by recommending against the proposed fundraising strategy of the new group (AO 2003-23), the General Counsel's office of the Federal Election Commission is preventing us from offering hundreds of small donors a voice in the upcoming presidential election.

It was saddening to learn of the FEC's recommendation, and as a member of WE LEAD's Board of Advisors, I hope you'll reconsider. It's taken me years to find a practical way to break into the political process, and I had high hopes that WE LEAD would be a perfect match for my situation and fiscal abilities.

As it stands now, your opinion will deliver a real blow to the fundraising pillar of the WE LEAD organization. I ask you, where is the spirit the campaign reform movement? What ever happened to creating better opportunities for average Americans to make political contributions? How will we ever neutralize the influence that only large donors seem to exert on the political process?

WE LEAD's simple fundraising approach makes perfect sense, and I urge you to approve it. Thank you for your continued consideration.

Regards,

Greta G. Menard

Arlington, VA

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