Draft Final Audit Report of the Audit Division on Hillary Clinton for President

Why the Audit Was Done
Federal law permits the Commission to conduct audits and field investigations of any political committee that is required to file reports under the Federal Election Campaign Act (the Act). The Commission generally conducts such audits when a committee appears not to have met the threshold requirements for substantial compliance with the Act. The audit determines whether the committee complied with the limitations, prohibitions, and disclosure requirements of the Act.

Future Action
The Commission may initiate an enforcement action, at a later time, with respect to any of the matters discussed in this report.

About the Campaign (p. 2)
Hillary Clinton for President (HCFP) is the principal campaign committee for Hillary Clinton’s candidacy for the Democratic Party’s nomination for the office of President of the United States. HCFP is headquartered in Washington, D.C. For more information, see the chart on the Campaign Organization, p.2.

Financial Activity (p. 2)
- Receipts
  - Contributions from Individuals $217,686,817
  - Other Political Committees 1,610,538
  - From Associated Committees 10,000,000
  - Candidate Loans 13,750,000
  - Offsets to Expenditures & Other Receipts 9,678,788
  - Total Receipts $252,726,143
- Disbursements
  - Operating Expenditures $223,080,262
  - Transfers to Affiliates 6,466,215
  - Contribution Refunds 21,935,595
  - Other Disbursements 75,403
  - Total Disbursements $251,557,475

Finding and Recommendation (p. 3)
- Receipt of Contributions that Exceed Limits

1 2 U.S.C. §438(b).
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Part I
Background

Authority for Audit
This report is based on an audit of Hillary Clinton for President, undertaken by the Audit Division of the Federal Election Commission (the Commission) in accordance with the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the Act). The Audit Division conducted the audit pursuant to 2 U.S.C. §438(b), which permits the Commission to conduct audits and field investigations of any political committee that is required to file a report under 2 U.S.C. §434. Prior to conducting any audit under this subsection, the Commission must perform an internal review of reports filed by selected committees to determine if the reports filed by a particular committee meet the threshold requirements for substantial compliance with the Act. 2 U.S.C. §437(b).

Scope of Audit
Following Commission approved procedures, the audit staff evaluated various risk factors and as a result, this audit examined:
1. The receipt of excessive contributions and loans.
2. The receipt of contributions from prohibited sources.
3. The disclosure of contributions received.
4. The disclosure of debts and obligations.
5. The consistency between reported figures and bank records.
6. The completeness of the report.
7. Other committee operating practices necessary to the review.
Part II
Overview of Campaign

Campaign Organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates</th>
<th>Hillary Clinton for President</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Registration</td>
<td>January 22, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Coverage</td>
<td>January 1, 2007 - December 31, 2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Headquarters
Washington, D.C.

Bank Information
- Bank Depositories: Two
- Bank Accounts: Eight

Treasurer
- Treasurer When Audit Was Conducted: Shelly S. Moskwa
- Treasurer During Period Covered by Audit: Shelly S. Moskwa

Management Information
- Attended FEC Campaign Finance Seminar: Yes
- Used Commonly Available Campaign Management Software Package: Yes
- Who Handled Accounting and Recordkeeping Tasks: Paid Staff

Overview of Financial Activity
(Audited Amounts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash on hand @ January 1, 2007</th>
<th>$ 0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o Contributions from Individuals</td>
<td>217,686,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Other Political Committees</td>
<td>1,610,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o From Affiliated Committees</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Candidate Loans</td>
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<td>75,403</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Disbursements</td>
<td>$251,557,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand @ December 31, 2008</td>
<td>$ 1,168,668</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part III
Summary

Finding and Recommendation

Receipt of Contributions that Exceed Limits
The Audit staff’s review of contributions from other political committees indicated that HCFP failed to timely resolve excessive contributions totaling $3,410. The contributions were either designated to the general election by the contributing committee or presumptively redesignated by HCFP. HCFP has provided documentation that the contributions have been refunded. In response to the interim audit report recommendation, HCFP’s legal counsel notes that the amount is a tiny part of total receipts and went on to explain that the excessive contributions were due to three minor database errors inadvertently overlooked by HCFP. When the contributions were brought to HCFP’s attention, they took appropriate steps to return the funds. (For more detail, see p. 4)
Part IV
Finding and Recommendation

Receipt of Contributions that Exceed Limits

Summary
The Audit staff’s review of contributions from other political committees indicated that HCFP failed to timely resolve excessive contributions totaling $21,400. The contributions were either designated to the general election by the contributing committee or presumptively redesignated by HCFP. HCFP has provided documentation that the contributions have been refunded. In response to the internal audit report recommendation, HCFP’s legal counsel notes that the amount is a small part of total receipts and went on to explain that the excessive contributions were due to three minor database errors inadvertently overlooked by HCFP. When the contributions were brought to HCFP’s attention, they took appropriate steps—return the funds.

Legal Standard
A. Authorized Committee Limits. An authorized committee may not receive more than a total of $2,300 per election from any one person or $4,600 per election from a multicandidate political committee. 2 U.S.C. §§110.1(a)(1), 110.2(b), and (f); 11 CFR §§110.1(a) and (b), 110.2(b), and 110.9.

B. Handling Contributions that Appear Excessive. If a committee receives a contribution that appears to be excessive, the committee must either:
- Return the questionable check to the donor, or
- Deposit the check to a special account and:
  o Keep a written record explaining why the contribution may be illegal;
  o Include a written explanation on Schedule A if the contribution has to be itemized before its legality is established;
  o Seek a reattribution or a redesignation of the excessive portion, following instructions provided in the Commission regulations; and
  o If the committee does not receive a proper reattribution or redesignation within 10 days after receiving the excessive contribution, refund the excessive portion to the donor. 11 CFR §§103.3(b)(3), (4) and (5) and 110.1(k)(3)(ii)(B).

C. General Election Contributions. If a candidate is not a candidate in the general election, any contributions made for the general election shall be refunded to the contributors or redesignated in accordance with 11 CFR §§110.1(b)(5) or 110.2(b)(5), as appropriate. 11 CFR §102.9(e)(3).
**Facts and Analysis**

A review of contributions from other political committees revealed HCFP received excessive contributions from ten political committees totaling $21,400 which were unresolved. The contributions were either designated to the general election by the contributing committee or presumptively redesignated to the general election by HCFP. Since the Candidate did not run in the general election, these contributions were required to be refunded. At all times, HCFP maintained sufficient funds to make the necessary refunds.

The Audit staff discussed this matter at the exit conference and provided HCFP representatives with a schedule of the apparent excessive contributions. In response to the exit conference, HCFP provided the Audit staff with copies of refund checks totaling $21,400. The refund checks have been negotiated and traded to the appropriate bank account.

**Interim Audit Report Recommendation and Committee Response**

The Audit staff recommended that HCFP provide any comments it deemed necessary with respect to this matter. In response, HCFP’s legal counsel notes that the amount is a tiny part of total receipts and went on to explain that the excessive contributions were due to three minor database errors inadvertently overlooked by HCFP. When the contributions were brought to HCFP’s attention, they took appropriate steps to return the funds.