



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Mur104

MAR 1976

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
OFFICIAL FILE COPY
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Mr. Danford L. Sawyer
2821 Hardee Drive
Sarasota, Florida 33581

Dear Mr. Sawyer:

I have received your complaint of March 9, 1976, alleging a violation of 2 U.S.C. §432(e) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the Act), by Sarasota Friends of President Ford. I have reviewed your allegations and have concluded that the information you provide is insufficient to conclude that an apparent violation of the Act has occurred, since there is no indication that the Sarasota Friends of President Ford is a political committee within the meaning of the Act. See 2 U.S.C. §431d. Accordingly, the Commission intends to close its files in this matter and will proceed with no further investigation of it.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the Commission's attention. If further information comes to your attention which you believe establishes an apparent violation of the Act, please feel free to write and apprise me of them.

Sincerely yours,

John G. Murphy, Jr.

John G. Murphy, Jr.
General Counsel

77040813710



DATE AND TIME OF REPORT: 3/18/76 12:00 noon

NO. MUR 104 (76)

REC'D: 3/11/76

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, D. C.

Complainant's Name: Danford L. Sawyer

Respondent's Name: Sarasota Friends of President Ford

Relevant Statute: 2 U. S. C.

Internal Reports Checked: _____

Federal Agencies Checked: _____

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATION

Respondent failed to place §432(e) notice on advertisement in newspaper thanking public for response to President Ford's visit.

PRELIMINARY LEGAL ANALYSIS

The information is insufficient to determine whether the "Sarasota Friends of President Ford" is a political committee, and therefore obligated to comply with §432(e). While the complainant makes no reference to §434(e), it seems plain that the attached materials do not represent advocacy of the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate.

RECOMMENDATION

Close file. Send attached letter.

Date of Next Commission Review: _____

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RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
76 MAR 11 P 5:26

The Sawyers

2821 Hardee Drive
Sarasota, Florida 33581

March 9, 1976

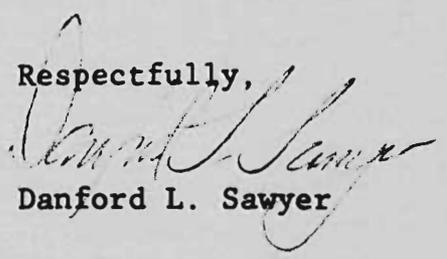
Federal Election Commission
Disclosure and Compliance Department
1325 K Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

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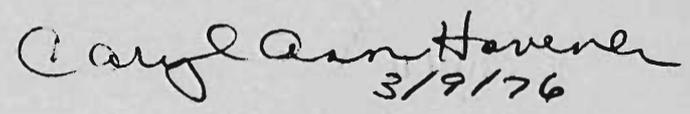
Gentlemen:

I would like to file a formal complaint in reference to the enclosed advertisement as it appeared in the Siesta Key Pelican on March 4, 1976. The "Sarasota Friends of President Ford" are not identified and there is no statement as to whether this advertisement is authorized by the candidate or not. Further, there is no disclaimer.

Looking forward to hearing from you on this matter, I remain

Respectfully,

Danford L. Sawyer

DLS/pap


3/9/76

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA AT LARGE
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOV. 5, 1978
BONDED THRU GENERAL INSURANCE UNDERWRITERS

77040013712