

From: [Bev Jeskie](#)
To: improvecinternet@fec.gov
Subject: improvements to the FEC.Gov website
Date: 06/26/2009 01:16 PM

I was just testing it and if you type in “Obama for President” and select 2007-2008, you don’t find anything. I think the search should catch anything with the name of Obama in it.

After the elections last year, I was looking at his reports and I did not like how it sorted the information. There should be a search so you could type in a person’s name to see if they gave money to certain candidate instead of having to look thru the complete report.

I also think that you should post individuals contributions to candidates in aggregate amounts. If they give less that \$200 on several occasions, the amounts should carry over. This is how you discover some illegal crap that went on. I don’t think it should be shoved under the rug. To me, it looked like there were several illegal donations. I wonder what ever happened to them?

Bev Jeskie

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Subject: FEC website
Date: 06/26/2009 01:16 PM

It's me again. I was just checking out the Year-End Report for Obama for America's report.

There are 23 different contributions at \$1,530 each totaling \$35,190 from Jeff Anderson. I know this is above the maximum amount you can contribute per individual per election cycle. There is another one from Ray Carter (9 contributions at \$1,346 each totaling \$12,114). Is anything being done about these illegal contributions? As a concerned citizen, I believe I have the right to know. Is there some where I need to send this information or will you do it for me? This was in just reviewing the first section of his report.

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From: [George Phillies](#)
To: improvecfecinternet@fec.gov
Subject: Modest suggestion
Date: 06/26/2009 06:01 PM

I find the obvious way to find financial data on a campaign to be to go to the electronic filings (for some material, the images of the paper filings) from a campaign. I find the electronic view and download files to be convenient, but the printed images generate an astonishingly large number of pages relative to the information on them. A paper listing that looking like the electronic image would be progress, in my opinion, or at least save a few trees.

During my own campaign (Libertarian, for our party's Presidential nomination) I would occasionally get odd questions about financial information, from people who had gone someplace else on your web site.

It appeared that they had gone to Campaign Finance Reports and Data -> Search the Disclose Database -> Candidate Search, and someplace from there. Alas, this never came up while we had a computer handy, so I cannot be more precise. In any event, they were coming up with donation and expenditure numbers that were not at all correct, uniformly too small. It appeared as though the quoted numbers, for a Presidential campaign, only referred to the current Congressional cycle, but I could be wrong. Perhaps this was a deliberate feature, but it confused people. Sorry I am being so very vague about the details.

From: [ANNE ROSENTHAL](#)
To: improvecinternet@fec.gov
Subject:
Date: 06/26/2009 04:50 PM

Now that Fed ID #'s are required on PAC contributions, many times, upon going to the FEC website those numbers are not available.

From: [info](#)
To: improvecfecinternet@fec.gov
cc: [info](#)
Subject: Fw: Special Request from FEC Chairman Steve Walther
Date: 07/13/2009 03:42 PM

comment received in office account*

----- Forwarded by info/FEC/US on 07/13/2009 03:40 PM -----

ed hamilton
<ethamilton@sbcglobal.net>

To "info@fec.gov" <info@fec.gov>

cc

06/26/2009 02:39 PM

Subject RE: Special Request from FEC Chairman Steve Walther

Dear FEC Chairman Walther,
Thank you for your June 26, 2009 email re. SUGGESTIONS to improve the FEC WEBSITE.

We were, however, unable to open your Attachment, so here's one idea : Please ADD a LINK where candidates or voters can lodge complaint(s) against, say a news media's (TV or radio) for their unfair coverage of a particular campaign such as by favoring the incumbent only news reporting.

Thank you,
Edward "MrClean" Hamilton

US Senate candidate in 2010
ethamilton@gmail.com

Federal Election Commission wrote:

>

> I am very pleased to announce that the Commissioners voted today to launch a new initiative seeking public input and advice on ways in which the Commission might improve its website and, more generally, make improvements in the Commission's use of the Internet to communicate with the public.

> The FEC was first constituted in 1975. The Commission launched its first website in 1996 and is now, for the first time, seeking formal public recommendations on the means by which the FEC discloses information to the public. The Commission desires to learn how it can improve its website to ensure that it is a state-of-the-art resource for disclosure of information to the public including (1) disclosure of campaign finance data, (2) information about federal campaign finance laws and (3) actions of the Commission.

> As part of this initiative, the FEC is seeking suggestions and recommendations from all segments of the public, including representatives of political committees, Federal candidates and officeholders, members of the media, authors, students, members of the academic community and advocacy groups.

> Many of you may have turned to the Commission's website in the past for information and have either found that the information is not organized intuitively, or that you were unable to access the information easily, or that the information you sought was not available on the FEC website at all. This is the type of feedback that only you, the public users of our website, can provide. That is why I am writing to you personally to ask you to consider participating in this important initiative by sending us your comments about what improvements we can make.

> We request that comments be sent to us by July 21, 2009. You can e-mail them to improvefecinternet@fec.gov . After we receive all the public comments, the Commission will hold a public hearing on these issues on Wednesday and Thursday, July 29-30, 2009.

> A copy of the Commission's Notice of Public Hearing and Request for Comment is attached. This document is also available on the Commission's website at <http://www.fec.gov/pages/hearings/internethearing.shtml> .

> [Thank you and, on behalf of all the Commissioners, we are looking forward to receiving your suggestions.](#)

> [Steven T. Walther Chairman Federal Election Commission](#)

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