

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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Washington, D.C. 20463

RELEASE: ON RECEIPT

FEC PUBLISHES REQUESTS
FOR ADVISORY OPINIONS

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WASHINGTON - NOVEMBER 5 - The Federal Election Commission will be deciding whether costs involved in candidate training conferences sponsored by political party committees are subject to the contribution and expenditure limits of the campaign finance laws.

The Request for Advisory Opinion (AOR #87) is among 11 requests for Advisory Opinions (AOR #'s 87 to 97 and 99) published in the Federal Register this week for public comment prior to issuing rulings on the requests.

Among the AOR's are the following:

- (1) Delegate Expenses: Can National and State political party committees pay for delegate expenses out of private or party funds without being subject to the \$2 million convention spending ceiling? (AOR #91, requested by the Democratic National Committee).
- (2) Services to Candidates: Could a corporation provide facilities or equipment, such as restaurant facilities or an airplane, to a candidate with the candidate paying the normal "out-of-pocket" expenses for use, without that being considered a contribution to the candidate? (AOR #94, requested by the Ken Pursley for Congress Committee, Boise, Idaho).
- (3) Volunteered Services of an Entertainer: If an entertainer donates his time and talent for a fundraising concert to benefit a presidential candidate and the candidate's committee pays his incidental expenses, how is the entertainer's "contribution" computed? (AOR #97, requested by the N.H. Udall in '76 Committee).
- (4) Multicandidate Political Committee: Must a multi-candidate committee attribute to candidates it supports the costs of overhead or of "interviewing and screening" candidates? (AOR #90, requested by the Fund for a Representative Congress).
- (5) Honorariums: Does an honorarium received by a Member of Congress count towards the yearly \$15,000 limit in the year the honorarium was "earned" or in the year the money was actually "received"? (AOR #89, and AOR #93, requested by Rep. Mike McCormack (D. Wash.-4) and Rep. Bella Abzug (D. N.Y.-20) respectively).
- (6) Incorporation of a Political Action Committee: If a formerly unincorporated political action committee becomes a non-profit corporation for legal liability purposes, would subsequent political contributions be in violation of the law's ban on corporate contributions? (AOR #92, requested by the American Apparel Manufacturers Political Action Committee, Washington, D.C.).
- (7) Separate State Party Committees: May a State party committee reorganize and form two committees to receive and expend funds separately for Federal and non-Federal candidates respectively? (AOR #95, requested by the Colorado Republican State Central Committee, Denver, Colorado).
- (8) Separate Local Party Committees: Can several local, district and state political party committees each make a separate \$5,000 maximum committee contribution to a congressional candidate in both the primary and the general election? (AOR #96, requested by the Minnesota Republican Finance Committee).
- (9) Government Contractors: Does the campaign law's ban on contributions from government contractors apply when the contributions are given to a county party committee's segregated account from which no funds are spent on Federal election or candidates? (AOR #99, requested by the San Francisco Republican County Central Committee).
- (10) Campaign Debts: How should excess campaign funds be used and reported after a 1974 campaign debt has been paid off? (AOR #88, requested by the Dodd for Congress Committee, Groton, Conn.).