

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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## FEC FILES SUIT AGAINST FIVE CANDIDATES

WASHINGTON - February 17 - The Federal Election Commission today revealed that it has filed civil suits in five United States District Courts to compel five Federal candidates to comply with the reporting requirements of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

In separate suits involving four candidates for the U. S. House of Representatives and one for the U. S. Senate, the FEC has asked the District Courts to order three candidates to designate a "principal campaign committee", four candidates to file required quarterly reports, four candidates to file the report required 10 days prior to the November 2 general election, and in two of the cases, to also file the report required 30 days after the general election.

The FEC also asked the courts to assess a penalty of not more than \$5,000 against the candidates for "failing and refusing to comply with the Act."

The following are the candidates, their district/state, their political party, and the U. S. District Court in which the suits were filed, (alphabetically by state):

Oscar Klee.....2nd Dist. - California  
Democratic.....(Northern District, California)

James Walaskay.....15th Dist. - Michigan  
Republican.....(Eastern District, Michigan)

Calvin Kimbrough.....37th Dist. - New York  
Republican.....(Western District, New York)

Andrew Watson.....Senate - Pennsylvania  
Constitutional Party.....(Middle District, Pennsylvania)

William Hathcock.....13th Dist. - Texas  
American.....(Northern District, Texas)

The Commission stated in its court complaints that prior to filing civil suits it had sent at least two notices to each candidate concerning the failure to file the quarterly reports, the pre-election and post-election reports, and also concerning the failure to designate a "principal campaign committee".

Before the general election, on Saturday, October 30, the FEC also published four candidates' names publicly, as required by the statute, as having failed to file the pre-general election report. The name of Oscar Klee, was published on October 27 for failing to file the required October 10 quarterly report.

In the case of Klee, the FEC sent "principal campaign committee" designation notices on October 4 and 12, and also sent notices about the required October 10 quarterly report on September 30 and October 19.

In the case of Walaskay, the FEC sent notices about the required October 23 pre-general election report on October 25, and 27, and notices concerning the December 2 post-general election report December 10 and 20. Walaskay was also cited in the court suit for failure to file the quarterly report due on October 10.

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In the case of Kimbrough, the FEC sent notices about the required October 23 pre-general election report on October 25 and 27, and notices concerning the December 2 post-general election report on December 10 and 20.

In the case of Watson, the FEC sent "principal campaign committee" designation notices on October 6 and 18, and also sent notices about the required October 23 pre-general election report on October 25 and 27. Watson was also cited in the court suit for failure to file the required July 10 quarterly report.

In the case of Hathcock, the FEC sent "principal campaign committee" designations on October 7 and 14, and also sent notices concerning the October 23 pre-general election report on October 25 and 27. Hathcock was also cited in the court suit for failure to file the required October 10 quarterly report.

In each case, under FEC compliance procedures, the first notice informed the candidate that the Commission found "reason to believe" a violation of the Act may have occurred, and the second notice informed the candidate that the Commission found "reasonable cause to believe" a violation of the Act may have occurred. Prior to filing suit, the Commission voted to find "probable cause" to believe a violation of the Act may have occurred.