

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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## FEC PUBLISHES ANNUAL REPORT OF 1992 ACTIVITIES

WASHINGTON -- The unprecedented political events of the 1992 election year are recapped in the Federal Election Commission's Annual Report sent to the White House and Congress.

As outlined in the Report's first pages, what was predicted to be an uneventful campaign season soon became a heated Presidential contest, including a serious independent candidacy. While expecting the high volume of activity a Presidential election year normally brings, the Commission found itself faced with a record workload. An unusual combination of factors at work in the 1992 elections - reapportionment and redistricting, a large number of House retirements, special Senate elections in three states - made it a much more active and competitive election, increasing the number of candidates, the number of reports filed, and the amount of financial activity to be monitored by the FEC.

The increase in activity was seen in all areas of the Commission. The Public Records, Press Office and Information Division each saw dramatic increases in requests for assistance, as reporters, interest groups, members of the general public and the regulated community iteself turned to the Commission seeking information. With the record number of reports filed containing an increased amount of financial activity, the work of the Reports Analysis and Audit Divisions, as well as the Office of General Counsel also grew.

External events were not the only reason for increased activity at the FEC. The 1992 election was the first election cycle under the Commission's new "soft money" regulations, which required additional filings. This, in turn, dramatically increased the amount of information to be computerized and reviewed.

The Commission devoted a great deal of time and energy in 1992 reviewing internal procedures and policies to increase productivity and compliance with the law. Revisions were made to the Commission's audit procedures in an effort to streamline the process and produce more timely and informative reports. The Office of General Counsel developed a method to prioritize its caseload, insuring that resources will be focused on the most important cases.

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The FEC's Annual Report is filled with the facts and figures that describe the 1992 election. Its pages are replete with statistical tables, charts and graphs that portray everything related to the election from campaign finance to Commission operations.

In addition to a typical discussion of Commission operations for the year, the Report incorporates an overview of the legal issues faced during the year, such as activity by foreign nationals, express advocacy, and the "best efforts" standard for committees reporting contributor information. In anticipation of Congressional interest in campaign finance legislation, the Commission, in late January, sent the President and Congress the most far reaching set of legislative recommendations ever adopted in the Commission's history. Those sixty-three recommendations are reprinted in the Report.

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