

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



Press Office
999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463
Phone: Local 202-219-4155 Toll Free 800-424-9530

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CONTACT: RON HARRIS
SHARON SNYDER
IAN STIRTON
KELLY HUFF

FEC TRANSMITS FINAL RULES ON FINANCING PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTIONS

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission on June 23 sent to Congress final rules governing publicly-financed Presidential nominating conventions. After the rules have been before Congress for 30 legislative days, the FEC will establish and announce a date for them to go into effect.

These final rules are revisions to existing ones, updating provisions relating to the audit and repayment process, and addressing vendor discounts, items provided for promotional consideration, legal and accounting expenses, civil penalties, and donations to host committees and municipalities. The changes also make the rules more consistent with rules governing other publicly-financed committees.

*Rules revisions include:

-- a narrow exception to the convention spending limits for legal and accounting costs incurred in complying with federal election laws, so long as the contributions raised for this purpose comply with the contribution limits and prohibitions;

-- specifications for circumstances under which different types of businesses may provide goods and services to convention committees, host committees, and municipalities at reduced or discounted rates, or at no charge;

-- for the first time, municipalities must file a statement listing, by category, the amounts spent by the city for facilities and services provided to the convention, the total amount of these costs defrayed from general revenue, and the total amount of private donations raised to defray these costs.

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*Media advisory: Full text of the revisions to rules governing public financing of Presidential nominating conventions can be located in the June 29 Federal Register, Vol.59, No. 124, pages 33606 to 33624.

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