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To: agencypro2008@fec.gov
Subject: Comments on FEC Compliance and Enforcement
Date: 01/02/2009 09:03 PM

TO: Federal Election Commission

RE: Comments on Compliance and Enforcement

The recent Presidential Election has brought to light the need to update and upgrade the regulatory capabilities of the FEC. Publicly funded candidates know they must be able to account for their finances. But what happens when there is no audit mandated?

President-elect Barack Obama spent a record $741 million on his campaign but has disclosed donors for only $485 million of his windfall. Many of those donors are subject to questions about exceeding campaign donation limits and being legitimate donors. His campaign spent $309 million on Broadcast Media while groups like ACORN received funding and abused voter registration processes. Obama further refuses to disclose information about his own citizenship, employment, health and education as the American Public tries to figure out, "What the heck is going on, here?"

How did Barack Obama get away with filing expenses for $255 Million more than he showed donation receipts for?

The following may now be deemed necessary to protect the integrity of the process:

1. The campaign finances of Barack Obama should be audited at the campaigns expense.

2. The Commissions ability to review campaign finance reporting must be upgraded and updated for more thorough checks for compliance at the time of submission.

The Federal Election Commission is in a key role to come forward and stand up for the integrity of the election process. This is a plea to the Commission to protect the American People from the corruption of that process.

Fair Elections are fundamental to the freedoms of all Americans. With the population growth and the advent of media technologies we have come, more and more, to find that the candidate with the largest financial backing that can obtain the largest mass media influence has the most significant advantage in winning the election. This has become particularly true with the largest populations on the national level.

The American Public is becoming increasingly aware that our Presidential Elections can be bought. There is a resulting loss in the confidence in our elected officials to represent the public as opposed to special interests that can provide campaign finances. As our economy is distressed and people face hardships it becomes more imperative that the integrity of the election process be protected to give people a voice in the government that is facing some very important decisions about priorities. Without this, we face chaos and destruction.

The election of George W. Bush in 2000 brought some controversy over the voting process. The manner of his reelection in 2004 initiated alarms in many Americans. The Country has not faired well under his administration and this latest Presidential Election have been fraught with controversy. Not only are there questions about voter registration fraud and voting fraud, but now the campaign financing process is included in the abuse of the system.

Looking at the Obama campaign finances, it becomes apparent that the check of the donor information on the part of the campaign was minimal. The burden then falls on the FEC. But the campaign produced over 2.5 million donor transactions and there is no unique identifier to monitor the donors total donations and little validation that they are legitimate donors.

The Obama submissions were riddled with errors on city, state and zip code information and a single donor could have several name variations. Some of the records were flagrant trash like Jfggjjfgj, Jgtj and Khv, Khv and Hkvkv, K Vkn K V and Hdusahfd, Dahsudhu. Numerous donors had a single letter given for their last name. Others were listed as Anonymous. Most of these are errors that can be checked by a computer routine. If the candidate is unwilling to proof their own submissions, then the FEC should have procedures for such checks upon submission and reject reporting with errors over specified tolerance levels. And late reporting penalties should be applied.

And then there is the issue of “foreign donors”. There are actually 4,166 donors

listed in the Obama donor records that have foreign address information and are not obviously with the military or government serviced there. The form apparently has no entry for foreign country specification. There are no notes about affirming the donor's American Citizenship. These donors should have some additional reporting requirements.

What can be done so that Americans can take a more active role in protecting the election process, during the elections instead of after the fact? Americans can take a more active part in assuring the quality of candidate financial reporting if more sophisticated search functions were available through the internet. A unique identifier for donors could reduce donation limit exceedances and make their affirmation as legitimate donors easier.

A less formal error reporting process is needed to check abuses in a timely fashion. This could be entirely separate from the more formal complaint process. It would enable public monitoring and rapid reporting including internet submissions. Submissions could be limited and results handled informally.

Americans Freedoms are worth fighting for.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please support Americans in restoring integrity to the Election Process.

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