



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington DC 20463

THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINE CASE # 1922

DATE SCANNED 12-23-08

SCANNER NO. 2

SCAN OPERATOR JmD

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT

2008 JUL -3 A 10: 53

July 3, 2008

MEMORANDUM

SENSITIVE

TO: THE COMMISSION

FROM: JOHN D. GIBSON *JG*
CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER

PATRICIA CARMONA *PC*
ASSISTANT STAFF DIRECTOR
REPORTS ANALYSIS DIVISION

BY: *RM* NATALIYA IOFFE/ RHIANNON MAGRUDER/CHRIS RITCHIE *CR*
COMPLIANCE BRANCH

SUBJECT: REASON TO BELIEVE RECOMMENDATION - 2008 12 DAY
PRE-CONVENTION REPORT (CONNECTICUT - REPUBLICAN
PARTY) FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE FINE PROGRAM

Attached is the name of a political committee and its treasurer who failed to timely file the 2008 12 Day Pre-Convention Report for Connecticut's Republican Party in accordance with 2 U.S.C. 434(a).

The committee appearing on the list failed to timely file the election sensitive report by the required due date. They did, however, file the report more than four days before the March 12, 2008 Republican Convention in Connecticut, and thus the report is considered late. In accordance with the schedule of civil money penalties for reports at 11 CFR 111.43, the committee should be assessed the civil money penalty highlighted on the attached circulation report.

Recommendation

1. Find reason to believe that the political committee and its treasurer listed on the RTB Circulation Report violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the RTB Circulation Report.
2. Send the appropriate letter.

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Reason to Believe Circulation Report

2008 PRE-CONVENTION Election Sensitive 04/28/2008 AUTH

AF#	Committee ID	Committee Name	Candidate Name	Treasurer	Threshold	PV	Receipt Date	Days Late	LOA	RTB Penalty
1822	C00434209	COMMITTEE TO ELECT SEAN SULLIVAN	SULLIVAN, SEAN PATRICK	JAMES H. AUSTIN	\$354,048	0	5/5/2008	7	\$22,135	\$220

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
)
Reason To Believe Recommendation -) AF 1822
2008 12 Day Pre-Convention Report)
(Connecticut - Republican Party) for the)
Administrative Fine Program: Committee)
to Elect Sean Sullivan and James H.)
Austin, as treasurer)

CERTIFICATION

I, Mary W. Dove, Secretary of the Federal Election Commission, do hereby certify that on September 18, 2008, the Commission decided by a vote of 6-0 to take the following actions in AF 1822:

1. Find reason to believe that the Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan and James H. Austin, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be in the amount of \$220.00.
2. Send the appropriate letter.

Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Attest:

September 19, 2008
Date

Darlene Harris
for Mary W. Dove
Secretary of the Commission

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

September 19, 2008

James H. Austin
Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan
P.O. Box 86
Gales Ferry, CT 06335

C00434209
AF#: 1822

Dear James H. Austin:

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), requires that your committee file a 12 Day Pre-Convention Report of Receipts and Disbursements in a calendar year during which there is a regularly scheduled election for which the candidate is seeking election, or nomination for election. This report, covering the period through April 20, 2008, shall be filed no later than April 28, 2008. 2 U.S.C. 434(a). Records at the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") indicate that this report was filed on 5/5/2008, 7 days late.

The Act was further amended in 1999 to permit the FEC to impose civil money penalties for violations of the reporting requirements of 2 U.S.C. 434(a). 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4). On 9/18/2008, the FEC found that there is reason to believe ("RTB") that Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan and you, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) by failing to file timely this report on or before April 28, 2008. Based on the FEC's schedules of civil money penalties at 11 C.F.R. 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage is \$220. It is due by 10/28/2008 and is based on these factors:

Election Sensitivity of Report: Election Sensitive
Level of Activity: \$22,135
Number of Days Late: 7
Number of Previous Civil Money Penalties Assessed: 0

To Pay the Calculated Civil Money Penalty

To pay the calculated civil money penalty, send the enclosed remittance and your payment to the FEC at the address on page 4. Upon receipt of your payment, the FEC will send you a final determination letter.

To Challenge the RTB Finding and/or Calculated Civil Money Penalty

To challenge the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty, you must submit a written response, including the AF# found on page one, to the FEC's Office of Administrative Review, 999 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20463. Your response must be received by

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10/28/2008. Your written response must include the reason(s) why you are challenging the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty. The FEC will only consider challenges that are based on a factual error in the RTB finding; miscalculation of the calculated civil money penalty by the FEC; or your demonstrated use of best efforts to file in a timely manner when prevented from doing so by reasonably unforeseen circumstances that were beyond your control. In order for a challenge to be considered on the basis of best efforts, you must have filed the required report no later than 24 hours after the end of these reasonably unforeseen circumstances. Examples of circumstances that will be considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to, a failure of Commission computers or Commission-provided software despite you seeking technical assistance from Commission personnel and resources; a widespread disruption of information transmissions over the Internet that is not caused by the Commission's or your computer systems or Internet service provider; and severe weather or other disaster-related incident. **Examples of circumstances that will not be considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to, negligence; delays caused by vendors or contractors; treasurer and staff illness, inexperience or unavailability; committee computer, software, or internet service provider failures; failure to know filing dates; and failure to use filing software properly.** Your response must include the factual basis supporting the reason(s) and supporting documentation. The FEC strongly encourages that documents be submitted in the form of affidavits or declarations. 11 C.F.R. 111.35.

Your failure to raise an argument in a timely fashion during the administrative process shall be deemed a waiver of your right to present such argument in a petition to the district court under 2 U.S.C. 437g. 11 C.F.R. 111.38.

If you intend to be represented by counsel, please advise the Office of Administrative Review. You should provide, in writing, the name, address and telephone number of your counsel and authorize counsel to receive notifications and communications relating to this challenge and imposition of the calculated civil money penalty.

If You Do Not Pay the Calculated Civil Money Penalty or Submit a Challenge

If you do not pay the calculated civil money penalty or submit a written response, the FEC will assume that the preceding factual allegations are true and make a final determination that Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan and you, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and assess a civil money penalty.

Unpaid civil money penalties assessed through the Administrative Fine regulations will be subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 ("DCA") as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, 31 U.S.C. 3701 et seq. The FEC may take any and all appropriate action authorized and required by the DCA, as amended, including transfer to the U.S. Department of the Treasury for collection. 11 C.F.R. 111.45.

This matter was generated based on information ascertained by the FEC in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(2). It will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A) until it is placed on

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the public record in accordance with 11 C.F.R. 111.42, unless you notify the FEC in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

Additional information on the FEC's administrative fine program, including the final regulations, is located at the FEC's website at www.FEC.gov. If you have questions regarding the payment of the calculated civil money penalty, please contact Rhiannon Magruder in the Reports Analysis Division at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5) or (202) 694-1130. If you have questions regarding the submission of a challenge, please contact the Office of Administrative Review at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (press 0, then ext. 1660) or (202) 694-1660.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DFM II", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Donald F. McGahn II
Chairman

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ADMINISTRATIVE FINE REMITTANCE & PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

In accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R. 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at RTB is \$220 for the 2008 12 Day Pre-Convention Report.

Please mail this remittance with a check or money order made payable to the Federal Election Commission to the following address:

Federal Election Commission
P.O. Box 979058
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If you choose to send your remittance and payment by courier or overnight delivery, please use this address:

U.S. Bank - Government Lockbox
FEC #979058
1005 Convention Plaza
Attn: Government Lockbox, SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, MO 63101

The remittance and your payment are due by 10/28/2008. Upon receipt of your remittance and payment, the FEC will send you a final determination letter.

PAYMENTS BY PERSONAL CHECK

Personal checks will be converted into electronic funds transfers (EFTS). Your account will be electronically debited for the amount on your check, usually within 24 hours, and the debit will appear on your regular statement. We will destroy your original check and keep a copy of it. In case the EFT cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in lieu of the original check. Should the EFT not be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer twice.

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THE PORTION BELOW WITH YOUR PAYMENT

FOR: Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan

FEC ID#: C00434209

AF#: 1822

PAYMENT DUE DATE: 10/28/2008

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$220

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

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November 10, 2008

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: THE COMMISSION

THROUGH: JOSEPH F. STOLTZ *JFS*
ACTING STAFF DIRECTOR

FROM: JOHN D. GIBSON *JG*
CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER

PATRICIA CARMONA *PC*
ASSISTANT STAFF DIRECTOR
REPORTS ANALYSIS DIVISION

BY: *NUS* NATALIYA IOFFE/RHIANNON MAGRUDER *RM*
COMPLIANCE BRANCH

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE FINE PROGRAM –
FINAL DETERMINATION RECOMMENDATION FOR THE
2008 12 DAY PRE-CONVENTION REPORT (CT)

Attached is the name of a political committee and its treasurer against which the Commission has found reason to believe (RTB) and assessed a proposed civil money penalty calculated at RTB for failure to timely file the 2008 12 Day Pre-Convention Report for Connecticut's Republican Party. The committee has paid the civil money penalty.

In accordance with 11 CFR § 111.34, the Commission shall send a final determination notice to those respondents that have paid the civil money penalty.

RAD Recommendation

- (1) Make final determination that the political committee and its treasurer on the attached report violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and assess the final civil money penalty so indicated.
- (2) Send the appropriate letter.

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AF#	Committee Name	Candidate Name	Committee ID	Treasurer	Receipt Date	Days Late	LOA	PV	RTB Date	RTB Penalty	Final Money Penalty	Date Paid	Amount Paid
1822	COMMITTEE TO ELECT SEAN SULLIVAN	SULLIVAN, SEAN PATRICK	C00434209	JAMES H. AUSTIN	05/05/2008	7	\$22,135	0	09/18/2008	\$220	\$220	10/22/2008	\$220

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
Administrative Fine Final Determination)	
Recommendation for the 12 Day Pre-)	
Convention Report (CT):)	
COMMITTEE TO ELECT SEAN)	AF# 1822
SULLIVAN, and JAMES H AUSTIN as)	
treasurer;)	

CERTIFICATION

I, Mary W. Dove, Secretary of the Federal Election Commission, do hereby certify that on November 17, 2008 the Commission took the following actions on the Administrative Fine Final Determination Recommendation for the 12 Day Pre-Convention Report (CT) as recommended in the Reports Analysis Division's Memorandum dated November 10, 2008, on the following committees:

AF#1822 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) make a final determination that COMMITTEE TO ELECT SEAN SULLIVAN, and JAMES H AUSTIN as treasurer , violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and assess the civil money penalty so indicated; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Bauerly, Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Attest:

November 17, 2008
Date

Mary W. Dove
Mary W. Dove
Secretary of the Commission

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 19, 2008

James H. Austin, Treasurer
Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan
P.O. Box 86
Gales Ferry, CT 06335

C00434209
AF#: 1822

Dear James H. Austin,

On 9/18/2008, the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") found reason to believe ("RTB") that Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan and you, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) for filing late or failing to file the 2008 Pre-Convention Report. By letter dated 9/19/2008, the Commission sent you notification of the RTB finding that included a civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage of \$220 in accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R. 111.43.

On 10/22/2008, the FEC received payment of your civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage. The FEC made a final determination on 11/17/2008 that you, as treasurer, and Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a), assessed a civil money penalty in the amount of \$220 in accordance with 11 C.F.R. 111.43, and voted to close the file.

The confidentiality provisions at 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(12) no longer apply and this matter is now public. The file will be made a part of the public record pursuant to 11 C.F.R. 111.42(b). Although the file must be placed on the public record within thirty (30) days from the date of the Commission's notification, this could occur at anytime following certification of the Commission's vote.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Rhiannon Magruder on our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5) or (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DFM II".

Donald F. McGahn II
Chairman

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FOR: Committee to Elect Sean Sullivan

FEC ID#: C00434209

AF#: 1822

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PAYMENT DUE DATE: 10/28/2008

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$220

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QUALITY IS OUR PRIORITY FOR LOCKBOX 9058
SEQ# 004 \$ 0000022000 BA# 1 10-21-08 20 3



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COMMITTEE TO ELECT SEAN SULLIVAN P.O. BOX 66 GALES FERRY, CT 06335		718 51-7337/2111 BRANCH 7
PAY TO THE ORDER OF FEC		DATE 10/16/08
TWO HUNDRED TWENTY		\$ 220. ⁰⁰ DOLLARS
Dime Bank 290 Second Street Norwalk, CT 06860		<i>A. Hill</i>
FOR		



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington DC 20463

THIS IS THE END OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINE CASE # 1822

DATE SCANNED 12-23-08

SCANNER NO. 2

SCAN OPERATOR JmH

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