



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

**SENSITIVE**

June 30, 2021

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Commission

THROUGH: Alec Palmer AP by *KAH*  
Staff Director

FROM: Patricia C. Orrock *PCO*  
Chief Compliance Officer

Debbie Chacona *DC*  
Assistant Staff Director  
Reports Analysis Division

BY: Kristin D. Roser/Ben Holly *KDR BH*  
Reports Analysis Division  
Compliance Branch

SUBJECT: Reason To Believe Recommendation – 2021 May Monthly Report for the  
Administrative Fine Program

Attached is the name of a political committee and its treasurer who failed to file the 2021 May Monthly Report in accordance with 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a). The May Monthly Report was due on May 20, 2021.

The committee listed on the attached RTB Circulation Report filed the report no more than thirty (30) days after the due date (considered a late filed report). 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, in his official capacity, listed on the RTB Circulation Report violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(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.

Federal Election Commission  
Reason to Believe Circulation Report  
2021 MAY MONTHLY Not Election Sensitive 05/20/2021 P\_UNAUTH

| AF#  | Committee ID | Committee Name                       | Candidate Name | Treasurer    | Threshold | PV | Receipt Date | Days Late | LOA     | RTB Penalty |
|------|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|----|--------------|-----------|---------|-------------|
| 4222 | C00417063    | WEST VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN PARTY, INC. |                | BEN ANDERSON | \$104,311 | 0  | 6/9/2021     | 20        | \$8,657 | \$190       |

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of )  
Reason To Believe Recommendation – ) AF 4222  
2021 May Monthly Report for the )  
Administrative Fine Program: West )  
Virginia Republican Party, Inc. and Ben )  
Anderson, in his official capacity as )  
treasurer )

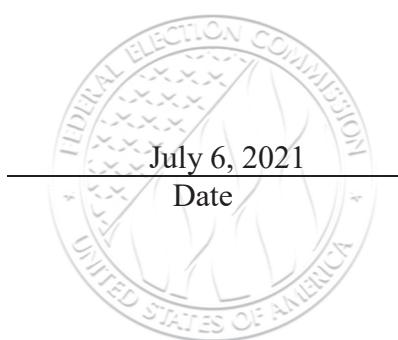
CERTIFICATION

I, Vicktoria J. Allen, Acting Deputy Secretary of the Federal Election Commission, do hereby certify that on July 02, 2021, the Commission decided by a vote of 4-0 to take the following actions in AF 4222:

1. Find reason to believe that West Virginia Republican Party, Inc. and Ben Anderson, in his official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount of \$190.
2. Send the appropriate letter.

Commissioners Broussard, Cooksey, Dickerson, and Trainor voted affirmatively for the decision. Commissioners Walther and Weintraub did not vote.

Attest:



 Digitally signed by Vicktoria  
Allen  
Date: 2021.07.06 12:20:16 -04'00'

Vicktoria J. Allen  
Acting Deputy Secretary of the  
Commission



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

AF

July 7, 2021

Ben Anderson, in official capacity as Treasurer  
West Virginia Republican Party, Inc.  
700 Washington Street, East  
Suite 201  
Charleston, WV 25301-1620

C00417063  
AF#: 4222

Dear Mr. Anderson,

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), requires that your committee file a May Monthly Report of Receipts and Disbursements covering the period April 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021. This report shall be filed no later than May 20, 2021. 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a). Records at the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") indicate that this report was filed on June 9, 2021, 20 days late.

The Act permits the FEC to impose civil money penalties for violations of the reporting requirements of 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a). 52 U.S.C. § 30109g(a)(4). On July 2, 2021, the FEC found that there is reason to believe ("RTB") that West Virginia Republican Party, Inc. and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) by failing to file timely this report on or before May 20, 2021. Based on the FEC's schedules of civil money penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage is \$190. Please see the attached copy of the Commission's administrative fine regulations at 11 CFR §§ 111.30-111.55. Attachment 1. The Commission's website contains further information about how the administrative fine program works and how the fines are calculated. See <https://www.fec.gov/af/pay.shtml> 11 CFR § 111.34. Your payment of \$190 is due within forty (40) days of the finding, or by August 11, 2021, and is based on these factors:

Election Sensitivity of Report: Not Election Sensitive  
Level of Activity: \$8,657  
Number of Days Late: 20  
Number of Previous Civil Money Penalties Assessed: 0

At this juncture, the following courses of action are available to you:

**1. If You Choose to Challenge the RTB Finding and/or Civil Money Penalty**

If you should decide to challenge the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money

WEST VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN PARTY, INC.

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penalty, you must submit a written response to the FEC's Office of Administrative Review. Your response must include the AF# (found at the top of page 1 under your committee's identification number) and be received within forty (40) days of the Commission's RTB finding, or August 11, 2021. 11 CFR § 111.35(a). Your written response must include the reason(s) why you are challenging the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty and 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 CFR § 111.36(c).

Please note, the Federal Election Commission's office remains closed to visitors and most of its employees are continuing to telework in an effort to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). The Commission is processing some documents submitted by mail, though processing will not occur daily until the agency resumes normal mail operations. Nevertheless, a challenge to an RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty must be received on time. Thus, all written responses and supporting documentation should be converted to PDF (Portable Document Format) and must be emailed to [administrativefines@fec.gov](mailto:administrativefines@fec.gov). The Commission encourages the use of electronic signatures on electronically submitted documents, but scanned copies of ink signatures will be accepted. Electronically submitted challenges will be deemed received on the date it is electronically received by staff.

The FEC will only consider challenges that are based on at least one of three grounds: (1) a factual error in the RTB finding; (2) miscalculation of the calculated civil money penalty by the FEC; or (3) 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. 11 CFR § 111.35(b). 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. *Id.* Examples of circumstances that will be considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to: (1) a failure of Commission computers or Commission-provided software despite your seeking technical assistance from Commission personnel and resources; (2) a widespread disruption of information transmissions over the Internet that is not caused by a failure of the Commission's or your computer systems or Internet service provider; and (3) severe weather or other disaster-related incident. 11 CFR § 111.35(c). Examples of circumstances that will not be considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to: (1) negligence; (2) delays caused by vendors or contractors; (3) treasurer and staff illness, inexperience or unavailability; (4) committee computer, software, or Internet service provider failures; (5) failure to know filing dates; and (6) failure to use filing software properly. 11 CFR § 111.35(d).

The "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 U.S. District Court under 52 U.S.C. § 30109. 11 CFR § 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.

**2. If You Choose Not to Pay the Civil Money Penalty and Not to Submit a Challenge**

If you do not pay the calculated civil money penalty and do not submit a written response, the FEC will assume that the preceding factual allegations are true and make a final determination that West Virginia Republican Party, Inc. and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(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 CFR § 111.51(a)(2).

**3. If You Choose to Pay the Civil Money Penalty**

If you should decide to pay the calculated civil money penalty, follow the payment instructions on page 4 of this letter. Upon receipt of your payment, the FEC will send you a final determination letter.

**NOTICE REGARDING PARTIAL PAYMENTS AND SETTLEMENT OFFERS**

**4. Partial Payments**

If you make a payment in an amount less than the calculated civil money penalty, the amount of your partial payment will be credited towards the full civil money penalty that the Commission assesses upon making a final determination.

**5. Settlement Offers**

Any offer to settle or compromise a debt owed to the Commission, including a payment in an amount less than the calculated civil money penalty assessed or any restrictive endorsements contained on your check or money order or proposed in correspondence transmitted with your check or money order, will be rejected. Acceptance and deposit or cashing of such a restricted payment does not constitute acceptance of the settlement offer. Payments containing restrictive endorsements will be deposited and treated as a partial payment towards the civil money penalty that the

WEST VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN PARTY, INC.

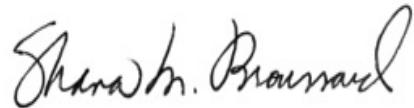
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Commission assesses upon making a final determination. All unpaid civil money penalty amounts remaining will be subject to the debt collection procedures set forth in Section 2, above.

This matter was generated based on information ascertained by the FEC in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(2). Unless you notify the FEC in writing that you wish the matter to be made public, it will remain confidential in accordance with 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(4)(B) and 30109(a)(12)(A) until it is placed on the public record at the conclusion of this matter in accordance with 11 CFR § 111.42.

As noted earlier, you may obtain additional information on the FEC's administrative fine program, including the final regulations, on the FEC's website at <https://www.fec.gov/af/pay.shtml>. If you have questions regarding the payment of the calculated civil money penalty, please contact Ben Holly 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. 1158) or (202) 694-1158.

On behalf of the Commission,



Shana M. Broussard  
Chair

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ADMINISTRATIVE FINE PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

In accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at RTB is \$190 for the May Monthly Report.

You may remit payment by ACH withdrawal from your bank account, or by debit or credit card through Pay.gov, the federal government's secure portal for online collections. Visit [www.fec.gov/af/pay.shtml](http://www.fec.gov/af/pay.shtml) to be directed to Pay.gov's Administrative Fine Program Payment form. Please use the details below to complete the required fields. For additional payment options, please contact Ben Holly in the Reports Analysis Division at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5) or (202) 694-1130.

WEST VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN PARTY, INC.

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COMMITTEE NAME: West Virginia Republican Party, Inc.

FEC ID#: C00417063

AF#: 4222

PAYMENT DUE DATE: August 11, 2021

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$190

**RECEIVED**

*By Office of the Commission Secretary at 10:50 am, Feb 14, 2022*



**FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

**SENSITIVE**

February 14, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Commission

THROUGH: Alec Palmer *AP*  
Staff Director

FROM: Patricia C. Orrock *PCO*  
Chief Compliance Officer

Debbie Chacona *DC*  
Assistant Staff Director  
Reports Analysis Division

BY: Kristin D. Roser/Jamie Sikorsky *KDR JLS*  
Reports Analysis Division  
Compliance Branch

SUBJECT: Administrative Fine Program – Final Determination Recommendation for the 2021 May Monthly Report

Attached is a list identifying 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 2021 May Monthly Report. The committee has paid the civil money penalty requested at RTB.

In accordance with 11 CFR § 111.40, the Commission shall send a final determination notice to the respondent that has paid the civil money penalty.

**RAD Recommendation**

- (1) Make a final determination that the political committee and its treasurer, in their official capacity, listed on the attached report violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and assess the final civil money penalty so indicated.
- (2) Send the appropriate letter.

Federal Election Commission  
FD Circulation Report Review - Fine Paid  
2021 MAY MONTHLY Not Election Sensitive 05/20/2021 P\_UNAUTH

| AF#  | Committee Name                          | Candidate Name | Committee ID | Treasurer    | Receipt Date | Days Late | LOA     | PV | RTB Date   | RTB Penalty | Date Paid  | Amount Paid |
|------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|---------|----|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 4222 | WEST VIRGINIA<br>REPUBLICAN PARTY, INC. |                | C00417063    | BEN ANDERSON | 06/09/2021   | 20        | \$8,657 | 0  | 07/02/2021 | \$190       | 12/20/2021 | \$190       |

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of )  
 )  
Administrative Fine Program - Final )  
Determination Recommendation for the )  
2021 May Monthly Report: )  
WEST VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN PARTY, ) AF# 4222  
INC., and ANDERSON, BEN MR. as )  
treasurer; )

CERTIFICATION

I, Vicktoria J. Allen, Acting Deputy Secretary of the Federal Election Commission, do hereby certify that on February 16, 2022 the Commission took the following actions on the Administrative Fine Program - Final Determination Recommendation for the 2021 May Monthly Report, as recommended in the Reports Analysis Division's Memorandum dated February 14, 2022, on the following committee:

AF#4222 Decided by a vote of 4-0 to: (1) make a final determination that WEST VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN PARTY, INC., and ANDERSON, BEN MR. in their official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) and assess the final civil money penalty so indicated; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Broussard, Cooksey, Trainor, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision. Commissioners Dickerson, and Walther did not vote.

Attest:



 Digitally signed by Vicktoria J  
Allen  
Date: 2022.02.17 19:20:30 -05'00'

Vicktoria J. Allen  
Acting Deputy Secretary of the  
Commission



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

AF

February 23, 2022

Ben Anderson, in official capacity as Treasurer  
West Virginia Republican Party, Inc.  
700 Washington Street, East  
Suite 201  
Charleston, WV 253011620

C00417063  
AF#: 4222

Dear Mr. Anderson,

On July 2, 2021, the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") found reason to believe ("RTB") that West Virginia Republican Party, Inc. and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) for filing late or failing to file the May Monthly Report. By letter dated July 7, 2021, the Commission notified you of the RTB finding and the civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage totaling \$190, in accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 C.F.R. § 111.43.

On December 20, 2021, the FEC received payment of the civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage. The FEC made a final determination on February 16, 2022 that West Virginia Republican Party, Inc. and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a), assessed a civil money penalty in the amount of \$190, in accordance with 11 C.F.R. § 111.43, and voted to close the file.

The confidentiality provisions at 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(12) no longer apply and this matter is now public. Pursuant to 11 C.F.R. §§ 111.42(b) and 111.20(c), the file will be placed on the public record within thirty (30) days from the date of this notification.

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

On behalf of the Commission,

Allen J. Dickerson  
Chair