

PATSY
KURTH
CONGRESS

November 18, 2000

Jeff S. Jordan, Supervisory Attorney
Federal Elections Commission
999 E. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 29463

RE: MUR 5144

Dear Mr. Jordan:

I am in receipt of your letter of November 13, 2000 in which you informed me of a complaint made by Dave Weldon dated October 27, 2000 in which possible violations by my campaign of federal election laws were alleged.

Item 1: Inconsistent Disclaimers. "Patsy Kurth for Congress" is the correct name of the campaign committee. It appears the mail vendor left out the words "for Congress" in the disclosure and simply stated "Paid for by the Patsy Kurth Campaign Account". When I approved the brochure, as was also stated in the disclosure, I was more focused on the content of the brochure and overlooked the omission of "for Congress" in the disclosure. There was no intent to mislead or confused anyone and certainly no intent to circumvent the law.

Item 2: Distribution of "Summer 2000" legislative newsletter. I have read and reread the Code of Federal Regulations governing Federal Elections and cannot find any reference to possible violations of federal election laws regarding distribution of a legislative newsletter. Because I was in a campaign, before distributing the newsletter, I checked with State Senate legal counsel and was told that as the newsletters were for informational purposes only and as a duly elected State Senator, I was free to distribute them in the manner I chose. It was my practice to have them available in my Senate office as well as the campaign office and to take some with me when I was speaking to various groups.

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Page 2: MUR 5144

Any reasonable person reading the newsletter would conclude it is informational only concerning the accomplishments in last legislative session by all members of the legislature and does not promote me as a candidate for congress or even mention anything of a partisan nature. I respectfully request you find no reason to believe a violation of the Code of Federal Regulations occurred.

Item 3: Usage of the same photographs in the legislative newsletter and on the campaign web site. In my ten years of public service and through four campaigns, I have accumulated a large number of photographs. The two in question were taken several years ago and have possibly been used in other campaigns and /or newsletters. As they nicely illustrated the written content of the text, they were chosen to be used again. As the complaint does not reference a specific chapter or subchapter that possibly may have been violated, I would respectfully request you find no reason to believe a violation occurred.

It is my hope that upon receiving this response you will conclude that the law was not broken. However, should the findings determine that a violation did occur, I would respectfully request that you find it was unintentional and there was no intent by my campaign committee, Patsy Kurth for Congress, Brian G. Fisher, Treasurer, or me to mislead or circumvent the law.

This letter will serve as the official response to MUR 5144 from the aforementioned entities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patsy Ann Kurth". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Patsy Ann Kurth