



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

Case Number ADR 050A
Source MUR 5139
Case Name Friends of Tim Johnson

NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

This matter was initiated by a signed, sworn and notarized complaint filed by David Plouffe, on behalf of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. Following a review of the record and in an effort to promote compliance with the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the FECA"), and to resolve this matter, the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") entered into negotiations with C. Thomas Blakeman, Esq., on behalf of the Livingston County Republican Central Committee and Sylvia Bashore, Treasurer ("the Respondents"). It is understood that this agreement will have no precedential value relative to any other matters coming before the Commission.

Negotiations between the Commission and the Respondents have addressed all the issues raised in this matter. The parties have agreed to resolve the matter according to the following terms:

1. The Commission has entered into this agreement as part of its responsibility for administering the Federal Election Campaign Act and in an effort to promote compliance with the FECA on the part of the Respondents. The Commission's use of ADR procedures is authorized in "The Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996", 5 U.S.C. § 572 and is an extension of 2 U.S.C. § 437g.
2. The Respondents have voluntarily entered into this agreement with the Commission
3. The complaint alleges that on October 11, 2000 Respondents made contributions aggregating \$2,200 to the Friends of Tim Johnson Committee's 2000 general election campaign. No person, including a committee or association, shall make contributions to any candidate and his authorized political committees with respect to any election for Federal office, which in the aggregate, exceeds \$1,000. 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(1)(A).
4. The Livingston County Republican Central Committee (LCRCC), an Illinois county party committee that is not registered with the Commission, acknowledges making two contributions, totaling \$2,200, to their candidate's election campaign. After learning of their mistake, the LCRCC obtained, on November 14, 2000, a refund of \$1,200 from the Friends of Tim Johnson
5. In order to resolve this matter and avoid exceeding contributions limits to Federal election campaigns in the future, the LCRCC agrees to: (1) adopt and subsequently maintain in its central files guidelines, including FEC regulations, governing Committee contributions to Federal election campaigns; and (2) arrange and participate in, via a

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conference call, a round-table discussion on relevant provisions and requirements of the FECA. The aforementioned round-table discussion will be arranged by the Respondents' representative, listed in the preamble to this agreement, who will contact the Acting Assistant Staff Director of the FEC's Information Office to arrange and subsequently convene before January 31, 2002, the aforementioned conference call/round-table discussion. Participants in the discussion are to include, among others, the LCRCC's Chairman, Treasurer and Attorney.

6. The parties agree that if the Respondents fails to comply with the terms of this settlement, the Commission may undertake civil action in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to secure compliance.
7. This agreement will become effective on the date signed by all the parties and approved by the Commission. Respondents shall comply with and complete all the provisions set forth in paragraph five (5) above by the date listed in the aforementioned paragraph.
8. This Negotiated Settlement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on ADR 050A/MUR 5139 and effectively resolves this matter. No other statement, promise or agreement, either written or oral, made by either party, not included in herein, shall be enforceable.

FOR THE COMMISSION

Allan D. Silberman,
Director Alternative Dispute Resolution Office




Allan D. Silberman

12-11-01

Date

FOR THE RESPONDENTS



C. Thomas Blakeman, Esq.
Counsel for the Livingston County
Republican Central Committee and
Sylvia Bashore, Treasurer

11/30/01

Date