

RAD Referral 21L-59

Trust the People

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REPORTS ANALYSIS DIVISION REFERRAL

TO

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICE

DATE: September 23, 2021

ANALYST: Jamie Timmie

I. COMMITTEE:

Trust the People
C00768572
Kevin Harris, Treasurer
2112 Belle Chasse Highway
Ste 8 Number 187
Gretna, LA 70056

II. RELEVANT STATUTE:

52 U.S.C. § 30104(g)
11 CFR § 104.4(c)
11 CFR § 104.4(b)(2)

III. BACKGROUND:

Failure to Provide Supporting Schedules (Failure to Timely File 24-Hour and 48-Hour Reports)

Trust the People (“the Committee”) failed to timely file two (2) 48-Hour Reports supporting two (2) independent expenditures totaling \$32,950.00 disclosed on the 2021 12-Day Pre-Special Report, made up to and including the 20th day before the 2021 Special General Election held in the state of Louisiana. Additionally, the Committee failed to timely file two (2) 24-Hour Reports totaling \$55,000.00 to support two (2) independent expenditures disclosed on the 2021 12-Day Pre-Runoff Report, made after the 20th day but more than 24 hours before the day of the 2021 Special Runoff Election held in the state of Louisiana (Attachment 2).

2021 12-Day Pre-Special Report

On March 8, 2021, the Committee filed its 2021 12-Day Pre-Special Report covering the period from January 1, 2021 through February 28, 2021. The report included

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a Schedule E (Itemized Independent Expenditures) disclosing two (2) independent expenditures, totaling \$32,950.00, made in opposition to one (1) federal candidate (Image 202103089440357623).

On June 14, 2021, a Request for Additional Information (RFAI) was sent to the Committee referencing the 2021 12-Day Pre-Special Report. The RFAI noted that the Committee may have failed to file two (2) or more of the required 48-Hour Reports for independent expenditures disclosed in the report. A chart was included with the RFAI identifying the two (2) independent expenditures, totaling \$32,950.00, for which a 48-Hour Report had not been filed (Images 202106140300119447-49, Attachment 2).

2021 12-Day Pre-Runoff Report

On April 12, 2021, the Committee filed its 2021 12-Day Pre-Runoff Report covering the period from March 1, 2021 through April 4, 2021. The Report included a Schedule E disclosing two (2) independent expenditures, totaling \$55,000.00, made in opposition to one (1) federal candidate (Image 202104129443249646).

On June 14, 2021, an RFAI was sent to the Committee referencing the 2021 12-Day Pre-Runoff Report. The RFAI noted that the Committee may have failed to file two (2) or more of the required 24-Hour Reports for independent expenditures disclosed in the report. A chart was included with the RFAI identifying the two (2) independent expenditures, totaling \$55,000.00, for which a 24-Hour Report had not been filed (Images 202106140300119450-52, Attachment 2).

On July 21, 2021, the Reports Analysis Division (RAD) Analyst called and left a message for Kevin Harris, the Committee's Treasurer. The RAD Analyst explained that the Committee had not adequately responded to the RFAIs sent on the 2021 12-Day Pre-Special and 2021 12-Day Pre-Runoff Reports and that the issues cited in the RFAI may be referred to another Commission office for potential further action. The Analyst encouraged Mr. Harris to call back as soon as possible (Attachment 3).

Later the same day, Mr. Harris called back and recommended the RAD Analyst speak with another Committee representative, Amy Gray, who is responsible for filing the reports (Attachment 3).

Also, on July 21, 2021, the RAD Analyst called Ms. Gray and said that the Committee had not adequately responded to the RFAIs sent on the 2021 12-Day Pre-Special and the 2021 12-Day Pre-Runoff Reports. The Analyst explained that the issues cited in the RFAI may be referred to another Commission office for potential further action and that the Committee should file the missing 24- and 48-Hour Reports as soon as possible (Attachment 3).

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Subsequently, on July 21, 2021, the Committee filed one (1) 48-Hour Report¹ to support two (2) independent expenditures totaling \$32,950.00, disseminated on February 12, 2021 and February 23, 2021. The Committee also filed one (1) 24-Hour Report to support two (2) independent expenditures totaling \$55,000.00, disseminated on March 3, 2021 and March 16, 2021 (Images 202107219451949428 and 202107219451949529).

To date, no further communications have been received from the Committee regarding these matters.

¹ The report (Image 202107219451949428) was filed as a 24-Hour Report; however, the independent expenditures disclosed were disseminated during the 48-Hour Report period.

Trust the People (C00768572)

2021 12-Day Pre-Special Report, received 3/8/2021

48-Hour Reports Not Timely Filed

Name of Payee	Date of Dissemination	Expenditure Amount	Candidate Opposed	State and Date of Election	48-Hour Report Filed
J&Z Strategies	2/12/2021	\$22,950.00 <i>48-Hour Report Required</i>	TROY CARTER SR.	Louisiana - 2021 Special General (3/20/2021)	7/21/2021
J&Z Strategies	2/23/2021	\$10,000.00 <i>48-Hour Report Required</i>	TROY CARTER SR.	Louisiana - 2021 Special General (3/20/2021)	7/21/2021

Trust the People (C00768572)

2021 12-Day Pre-Runoff Report, received 4/12/2021

24-Hour Reports Not Timely Filed

Name of Payee	Date of Dissemination	Expenditure Amount	Candidate Opposed	Election	24-Hour Report Filed
J&Z Strategies	3/3/2021	\$50,000.00 <i>24-Hour Report Required</i>	TROY CARTER SR.	Louisiana - 2021 Special Runoff (4/24/2021)	7/21/2021
J&Z Strategies	3/16/2021	\$5,000.00 <i>24-Hour Report Required</i>	TROY CARTER SR.	Louisiana - 2021 Special Runoff (4/24/2021)	7/21/2021