



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

September 4, 2024

Michael J Tsandilas, Treasurer  
Marvin Abney for Congress  
30 Kay Street - Unit 5  
Newport, RI 02840

**Response Due Date  
September 25, 2024**

Re: ADR 1177 (MUR 8151)  
Marvin Abney for Congress and Michael J Tsandilas, Treasurer (C00839126)

Dear Michael J Tsandilas:

The Federal Election Commission (FEC or Commission) referred a compliance issue to the FEC's Alternative Dispute Resolution Office (ADR Office) for processing. The referral by the Commissioners was based on a review of reports filed by Marvin Abney for Congress which reflect a possible failure to comply with the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.

The FEC established the ADR Program to provide an informal means for resolving matters that come before the Commission and to facilitate negotiations directly with Marvin Abney for Congress and Michael J Tsandilas, Treasurer (Respondents or the Committee). The ADR Program provides Respondents with an opportunity to negotiate settlement of a matter that is mutually agreeable. The negotiations occur prior to any Commission consideration of whether there is reason to believe a violation has occurred. If negotiations are successful, the resulting settlement would conclude the matter.

The Commission, in referring the matter to the ADR Office, determined that the case is eligible for processing in the ADR program. If Respondents decide to participate in the ADR Program, you must: 1) indicate in writing a willingness to have your case submitted for ADR processing; 2) agree to participate in the bilateral interest based negotiations; and 3) waive the statute of limitations while the matter is being processed under the FEC's ADR program.

The issues referred to the ADRO, and the focus of our subsequent negotiations are summarized as follows:

On August 1, 2023, the Rhode Island Republican State Central Committee filed a Complaint alleging that Marvin Abney for Congress and Michael J. Tsandilas, Treasurer (Respondents or the Committee) accepted an excessive contribution in the form of a \$50,000 loan from an individual. RAD later referred Respondents for the same activity in

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION, ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICE  
1050 FIRST STREET N.E., WASHINGTON, D.C.  
TELEPHONE: (202) 694-1136  
EMAIL: JREBOLLOZO@FEC.GOV

addition to receiving \$550 in apparent prohibited contributions from unregistered organizations for the 2023 Special Primary Election.

In a Response received from the Committee on September 19, 2023, the Committee acknowledged it mistakenly accepted a loan that exceeded contribution limits and stated it subsequently refunded the loan within 16 days of learning of the issue. On September 25, 2023, the Committee filed a Form 99 (Miscellaneous Electronic Submission) stating it had been unable to confirm whether the contributions received from apparent unregistered organizations were made using permissible funds and stated it would refund the contributions expeditiously.

If after reviewing this letter and the enclosed ADR Frequently Asked Questions, which describe the ADR program, Respondent(s) would like to participate in ADR processing, you need to affirmatively indicate that on the enclosed Commitment to Submit Matter to ADR form. **Failure to respond affirmatively within fifteen (15) business days from the date of this letter will be taken as a notice of disinterest in the program and your case will be dropped from further consideration for ADR.** In that event, your case will be sent to the FEC's Office of General Counsel for further processing.

This matter has been designated as **ADR 1177**. Please refer to this number in future correspondence with the FEC. If you have questions about the ADR Program, please contact the ADRO at my direct dial as indicated below

Sincerely,



Joshua A. Rebollozo  
Assistant Director  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office