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June 21, 2004

Retha Dixon
Docket Manager
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20463

MUR # 5471

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL
COUNSEL
2004 JUN 28 A 10:09

Re: CBS Station WBZ (Channel 4)

Dear Ms Dixon:

I wish to complain about a recent TV newscast broadcast on the above referenced station that was a political speech by Senator Kerry in the guise of an interview. On May 26th during the 6-O'Clock newscast, the anchors for the program, Joe Shortsleeve and Lisa Hughes interviewed Senator John Kerry about his decision to accept the Democrat Party's nomination at the DNC convention in Boston. Although Senator Kerry was on the west coast at the time of the interview, the interview was shown live.

Senator Kerry expanded his answers to include political attacks on President Bush for about 5-minutes. Neither of the anchors made any attempt to limit Kerry's diatribe. In short, this station gave free time to Kerry for a political speech under the guise of news. President Bush should be given equal time to rebut this obvious political speech masquerading as a news item.

Will the news media be giving Kerry free political speech time to offset the perceived loss of funding after the DNC convention? At the very least, President Bush should be allowed the same 5-minutes during the Channel 4 6-O'Clock newscast to rebut John Kerry's speech.

I, James C. Carroll, do swear that the contents of my complaint, detailed above, are true to the best of my knowledge.

James C. Carroll, Date 6/23/04
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 23rd day of June, 2004.

Jean M. Dooley
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 12/20/07