



Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463

Case Number ADR 275
Source MUR 5614
Case Name Steven Reifman for Congress

NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

This matter was initiated by a signed, sworn and notarized complaint filed by Benjamin Katz. Following review of the matter, and in an effort to promote compliance with the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, ("FECA") and resolve this matter, the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") entered into negotiations with Steven Reifman, Esq., representing Steven Reifman for Congress and Andrew Glazer, Treasurer ("the Committee" or "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 Respondents addressed the issues raised in this complaint. The parties agree to resolve the matter according to the following terms:

1. The Commission entered into this agreement as part of its responsibility for administering the FECA, and in an effort to promote compliance on the part of Respondents. The Commission's use of alternative dispute resolution procedures ("ADR") 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. Respondents voluntarily enter into this agreement with the Commission.
3. The Complainant alleges that Respondents failed to report a debt owed to his company, CompleteCampaigns.com, in the amount of \$450. Complainant asserts that Respondents signed a contract in July 2004 with CompleteCampaigns.com for computer campaign management services. The monthly cost, based on the number of voter records involved, was \$300 per month. Complainant received from Respondents the first, and only, payment of \$300 in July 2004. The Committee was invoiced for \$150 for July, \$300 for August, and \$300 for September. Respondent failed to pay the balance, and failed to report the debt to the Commission.
4. The FECA requires a committee to report the nature and amount of outstanding debts and obligations owed by or to the political committee. 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(8), 11 C.F.R. § 104.3(d). The regulations also require that debts or obligations owed by or to a political committee which remain outstanding be continuously reported until extinguished. 11 C.F.R. § 104.11. A political committee shall report a disputed debt if the creditor has provided something of value to the political committee until the dispute is resolved. 11 C.F.R. § 116.10.


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5. Respondents acknowledge an inadvertent violation of FECA. Respondents did not believe the debt to be valid, and thus did not report it.
6. Respondents, in an effort to avoid similar errors in the future, agree to: (a) amend all reports to reflect the disputed debt until the dispute is resolved; and (b) work with Commission staff to terminate the committee within sixty (60) days.
7. Respondents agree that all information provided to resolve this matter is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge and that they sign this agreement under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746.
8. The parties agree that if Respondents fail 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.
9. This agreement shall become effective on the date signed by all parties and approved by the Commission. Respondents shall comply with the terms in paragraph 6 above within sixty (60) days from the effective date of this agreement.
10. This Negotiated Settlement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on ADR 275 (MUR 5614), and effectively resolves the issues identified in paragraph 3 above. No other statement, promise or agreement, either written or oral, made by either party, not included herein, shall be enforceable.


FOR THE COMMISSION:

Allan D. Silberman, Director
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office

By: 
Lynn M. Fraser, Assistant Director
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office

2/3/06
Date Signed

FOR THE RESPONDENTS:


Steven Reifman, Esq.
Representing Steven Reifman for Congress
and Andrew Glazer, Treasurer

1/25/06
Date Signed