



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION  
SECRETARIAT

2008 MAR 25 P 4: 11

**MEMORANDUM**

March 25, 2008 **SENSITIVE**

**TO:** The Commission  
**THROUGH:** Patrina M. Clark *PM*  
Staff Director  
**FROM:** John D. Gibson *JDG*  
Chief Compliance Officer  
Deborah Ruth Kant *DRK*  
Director, ADR Office

**SUBJECT:** ADR 458 Schenectady County Democratic Committee and William Kasper, Treasurer,<sup>1</sup> Informational Memo on Assignment

The Office of General Counsel has referred MUR 5975 to the ADR Office and the ADR Office has assigned the matter ADR 458. We have included a summary and discussion of the referral for your information. We anticipate initiating ADR 458 on March 31, 2008. Please contact Deborah Ruth Kant if you have any questions or concerns before then. Copies of the complaint, response, and the EPS Report are in the voting ballots folder.

**Summary of Case:** The Federal Election Campaign Act ("FECA") bars any political committee, including unregistered local party committees from accepting contributions from foreign nationals in connection with any federal, state, or local election. 2 U.S.C. § 441e, 11 C.F.R. § 110.20(b), (c), (g). In this case, Complainant, Thomas D. Buchanan, Chairman of the Schenectady County GOP, asserts that Schenectady County Democratic Committee ("the Committee"), solicited and received a \$5,000 contribution from a foreign national, Carnax Services, Inc. In response, the Committee acknowledges that it deposited the contribution from Carnax Services in the Committee's bank account. The Committee explains that it was unaware of federal restrictions on contributions from foreign nationals. The Committee further asserts that it refunded the contribution to the Canadian company, and it attached a copy of the refund letter and check to its response.

<sup>1</sup> William Kasper signed the response as the representative of the Committee in his capacity as treasurer. William Kasper is not a named respondent since treasurers of unregistered local party committees are not subject to the FECA as the legally responsible party.

28190280118