



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

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2009 MAY 11 P 2:14



SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM

May 11, 2009

TO: The Commission

THROUGH: Robert A. Hickey
Staff Director 

FROM: John D. Gibson
Chief Compliance Officer 
Lynn M. Fraser
Acting Director, ADR Office 

SUBJECT: ADR 485 Dallas County Democratic Party and Darlene Ewing, Treasurer,
Recommendation to Approve Settlement Agreement

RESOLUTION TERMS: Work with RAD to ensure that all necessary amendments are filed; work with Commission staff to terminate Respondents' federal committee status; and pay a civil penalty of \$3,500

Attached for your review is a signed negotiated ADR Settlement Agreement pertaining to ADR 485 (RAD 09L-04). This case was received by the ADR Office on January 13, 2009, and was activated by the ADR Office on January 30, 2009.

SUMMARY: The Reports Analysis Division referred the Dallas County Democratic Party and Darlene Ewing, Treasurer (Respondents or the Committee) for cumulative errors during the 2006 election cycle. Some of the errors involved failures to itemize contributions; mathematical discrepancies; excessive contributions and/or prohibited contributions; failures to provide supporting schedules; FEA/Levin Funds; and allocated Federal and Non-Federal activity.

Respondents acknowledge some reporting issues due to inexperienced staff and an unanticipated increase in financial activity. Respondents contend that they took steps to increase compliance by hiring experienced staff and implementing new financial procedures.

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the attached settlement agreement of the Dallas County Democratic Party and Darlene Ewing, Treasurer.
2. Approve the appropriate letters.
3. Close the file on this matter.