



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20463

December 2, 2011

Thomas Hamilton, Treasurer  
Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party  
255 Plato Boulevard East  
St. Paul, MN 55107

Re: ADR 596 (RAD 11L-30)  
Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party and Thomas Hamilton, Treasurer

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

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 Reports Analysis Division (RAD) was based on a review of reports filed by Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party 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 the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party and Thomas Hamilton, 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 concludes 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:

RAD referred the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party and Thomas Hamilton, Treasurer (Respondents or the Committee) for a series of reporting errors and other FECA violations during the 2010 election cycle. A political committee may be referred if, after an internal review of reports filed by the committee, the Commission determines the reports do not meet the threshold requirements for substantial compliance with the

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION, ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICE  
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FECA. The Committee's errors included, among other items: excessive or otherwise prohibited contributions; a failure to provide supporting schedules; and the allocation between federal and non-federal activity.

If after reviewing this letter and the enclosed ADR Frequently Asked Questions, which describe the ADR program, Respondents 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 of receipt 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, and the likelihood that the Committee will be audited during the next election cycle will increase.

This matter has been designated as **ADR 596**. 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,

Lynn M. Fraser, Director  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office  
202-694-1665

Enclosures: ADR Frequently Asked Questions  
Commitment to Submit Matter to ADR w/ Designation of Representative/Counsel  
List of Violations