



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

June 18, 2019

Jeffrey Ruppert, Treasurer  
Elevate Ohio  
35 East Gay Street  
Ste 403  
Columbus, OH 43215

**Response Due Date**  
**July 9, 2019**

Re: ADR 917 (RAD 19L-11)  
Elevate Ohio and Jeffrey Ruppert, Treasurer

Dear Jeffrey Ruppert:

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 was based on a review of reports filed by Elevate Ohio 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 Elevate Ohio and Jeffrey Ruppert, 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 would conclude 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 Elevate Ohio and Jeffrey A. Ruppert, Treasurer (Respondents or the Committee) for failing to disclose all financial activity on its 2018 October Quarterly

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION, ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICE  
1050 FIRST STREET N.E., WASHINGTON, DC 20463  
TELEPHONE: 202.694.1661  
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Report, filed on October 14, 2018. On October 25, 2018, the Committee filed an Amended 2018 October Quarterly Report including \$100,000.00 in additional disbursements.

On March 18, 2019, the Committee filed a Form 99 (Miscellaneous Electronic Submission) stating that the increase was a result of “working from an incorrect set of data” when preparing the report. The Committee stated that it will “reconcile all filings with actual account statements before filing” in the future.

If after reviewing this letter and the enclosed ADR Frequently Asked Questions, which describe the ADR program, Respondent(s) 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 from the date 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 917**. 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,

*Krista J. Roche*

Krista J. Roche  
Director  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office