



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

April 16, 2021

Chris Marston  
P.O. Box 26141  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Re: ADR 967 (P-MUR 633) & ADR 969 (RAD 20L-12)  
Liberty for Us Super PAC and Chris Marston, Treasurer (C00676429)

Dear Chris Marston:

Enclosed is the signed copy of the Negotiated Settlement resolving the above-shown matters. The Negotiated Settlement was approved by the Commission on April 15, 2021 – the effective date of the agreement.

Note the specific time frames for compliance detailed in the agreement. Please forward to this office, a statement confirming Respondent's compliance with each term. The letter should note the dates on which Respondents satisfied each of the terms and contain the ADR case numbers. For your convenience, a compliance chart is attached.

Under the terms of the agreement, a civil penalty in the amount of \$17,400 is due in accordance with the schedule set forth in the Negotiated Settlement. Kindly review the attached payment instructions for details on payment methods and the collection of unpaid debts.

As you are aware, the Negotiated Settlement will be made part of the record that is released to the public. The Commission will also place on the record copies of the complaint/referral, correspondence exchanged between your office and this office prior to our negotiations, and reports prepared for the Commission by this office to assist in its consideration of this matter. The Commission is obliged by Federal statute to place on the public record documents in closed enforcement and alternative dispute resolution cases; accordingly, copies of documents relative to this matter will be forwarded shortly to the FEC's Public Records Office.

This agreement resolves this matter. I appreciate your assistance in effectively resolving this matter and bringing the case to a mutually acceptable conclusion.

Sincerely,



Joshua A. Rebollozo  
ADR Specialist  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office

Enc: Payment Instructions  
Compliance Chart  
Negotiated Settlement

## **ADRO Civil Penalty Payment Instructions**

You may remit payment by credit card, debit card, or ACH withdrawal from your bank account through Pay.gov, the federal government's secure portal for online collections. Visit [www.fec.gov/adrpayment](http://www.fec.gov/adrpayment) to be directed to Pay.gov's FEC ADR Payment form.

### **Unpaid Civil Penalties**

Unpaid civil money penalties will be subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 ("DCA") as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 ("DCIA"), 31 U.S.C. § 3701 et seq. If you do not pay this debt within 30 days (or file a written petition to a federal district court - see below), the Commission will transfer the debt to the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") for collection. Within 5 days of the transfer to Treasury, Treasury will contact you to request payment. Treasury currently charges a fee of 30% of the civil money penalty amount for its collection services. If the age of the debt is greater than or equal to two years old, Treasury will charge a fee of 32% of the civil money penalty amount for its collection services. The fee will be added to the amount of the civil money penalty that you owe. Should Treasury's attempts fail, Treasury will refer the debt to a private collection agency ("PCA"). If the debt remains unpaid, Treasury may recommend that the Commission refer the matter to the Department of Justice for litigation.

Actions which may be taken to enforce recovery of a delinquent debt by Treasury may also include: (1) offset of any payments, which the debtor is due, including tax refunds and salary; (2) referral of the debt to agency counsel for litigation; (3) reporting of the debt to a credit bureau; (4) administrative wage garnishment; and (5) reporting of the debt, if discharged, to the IRS as potential taxable income. In addition, under the provisions of DCIA and other statutes applicable to the FEC, the debtor may be subject to the assessment of other statutory interest, penalties, and administrative costs.

In accordance with the DCIA, at your request, the agency will offer you the opportunity to inspect and copy records relating to the debt, the opportunity for a review of the debt, and the opportunity to enter into a written repayment agreement.

**ADR 967 Compliance Chart**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Date Due</b>
Develop a FEC Compliance Manual	July 14, 2021
Attend FEC seminar	April 15, 2022
Conduct & certify internal audit/reconciliation	May 15, 2022



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Case Numbers: ADR 967 (P-MUR 633) &  
ADR 969 (RAD 20L-12)  
Case Name: Liberty for Us Super PAC

## NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

This matter was initiated by the Federal Election Commission (Commission) pursuant to information ascertained in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. 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 Commission entered into negotiations with Chris Marston representing Liberty for Us Super PAC and himself, in the official capacity of 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 referral. 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 guided by "The Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996," 5 U.S.C. § 572 and is an extension of 52 U.S.C. § 30109.
2. Respondents voluntarily enter into this agreement with the Commission.
3. The Reports Analysis Division (RAD) referred Respondents for failing to timely file a total of six (6) 48-Hour Reports supporting eight (8) independent expenditures totaling \$153,400 disclosed on the 2018 July Quarterly Report and the 2018 October Quarterly Report. RAD additionally referred the Committee for failing to disclose additional receipts totaling \$58,000 and additional disbursements totaling \$217,474.53 on the Committee's 2018 July Quarterly Report and 2018 October Quarterly Report combined.
4. A person, including a political committee, that makes or contracts to make independent expenditures aggregating \$10,000 or more at any time up to and including the 20th day before the date of an election shall file a report describing the expenditures within 48 hours. 52 U.S.C. § 30104(g)(2), 11 C.F.R. § 104.4(b)(2). Treasurers of political committees are required to report all financial activity, including all receipts and disbursements, pursuant to the FECA. 52 U.S.C. §§ 30104(a)(1), 30104(b)(2) and (b)(4), 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.3(a) and (b).

5. In a *sua sponte* submission received on April 6, 2020, the Committee affirmed and hereby confirms the information included in the RAD referral and further states that the Committee has filed amended reports correcting the reporting errors.
6. The Committee additionally states that it has since corrected additional reporting errors that were not included in the RAD referral, including: failing to include the *Speech Now v. FEC* language in its Statement of Organization, inadvertently filing its 2018 July Quarterly Report on the FEC Form 3 instead of the FEC Form 3X, submitting the 2018 October Quarterly Report without the signature of an authorized individual, failing to file the 2018 30-Day Post General Report and the 2018 Year-End Report, as well as inadvertently disclosing non-federal activity as independent expenditures on Schedule E of the 2019 Mid-Year Report.
7. Respondents, in an effort to avoid similar errors in the future, agree to:
  - a. Certify that a representative of the Committee participated in an FEC conference, webinar, or other program developed in consultation with the FEC's Information Division within twelve (12) months of the effective date of this agreement;
  - b. Develop and certify implementation of a compliance operations manual which includes internal controls consistent with those described in the Commission's Internal Controls and Political Committees advisory document (2007) and the Best Practices for Committee Management (published in the April 2009 Record, available at [www.fec.gov/pages/brochures/bestpractices.shtml](http://www.fec.gov/pages/brochures/bestpractices.shtml)) within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this agreement;
  - c. Certify that the Committee performed reconciliation of the Committee's accounts for each required FEC report for one year from the effective date of this agreement, providing certification within thirty (30) days of the expiration of that one year period; and
  - d. Pay a civil penalty to the Commission in the amount of \$17,400, payable as follows:
    - i. Six (6) installments of \$2,900 each, due within thirty (30), sixty (60), ninety (90), one hundred twenty (120), one hundred fifty (150), and one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this agreement.
    - ii. In the event that any payment is not received by the Commission by the fifth day after it becomes due, the Commission may, at its discretion, accelerate the remaining payments and cause the entire amount to become due upon ten days written notice to the Respondents. Failure by the Commission to accelerate the payments with regard to any overdue payment shall not be construed as a waiver of its right to do so with regard to further overdue payments. Unpaid civil money penalties are subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA), 31 U.S.C. § 3701 *et seq.* The Commission will transfer debt to the United States Department of the Treasury (Treasury) for collection.

8. 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.
9. 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. Unpaid civil money penalties are subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA), 31 U.S.C. § 3701 et seq. The Commission will transfer debt to the United States Department of the Treasury (Treasury) for collection.
10. This agreement shall become effective on the date signed by all parties and approved by the Commission. Respondents shall comply with the terms of this agreement as set out in paragraph 7 above, and shall certify compliance with the above settlement terms in writing to the Alternative Dispute Resolution Office on or before the date each term becomes due.
11. This Negotiated Settlement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on ADR 967 (P-MUR 633) and ADR 969 (RAD 20L-12), and resolves those 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:

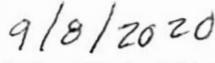
Joshua A. Rebollozo, ADR Specialist  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office



4/15/2021  
Date Signed

FOR THE RESPONDENTS:

  
Chris Marston  
Representing Liberty for Us Super PAC  
and Chris Marston, Treasurer

  
Date Signed