

20L-16

REPORTS ANALYSIS DIVISION REFERRAL
TO
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICE

DATE: August 14, 2020

ANALYST: Romy Adame-Wilson

I. COMMITTEE: GRIT PAC
C00717421
Robert Phillips III, Treasurer
75 S. High Street
Suite 4
Dublin, OH 43017

II. RELEVANT STATUTE: 52 U.S.C. § 30104 (g)(1)
11 CFR § 104.4(c)

III. BACKGROUND:

Failure to Provide Supporting Schedules (Failure to Timely File 24-Hour Reports)

GRIT PAC (“the Committee”) failed to timely file one (1) 24-Hour Report totaling \$25,214.00 supporting one (1) independent expenditure disclosed on the 2020 April Quarterly Report, made after the 20th day but more than 24 hours before the day of the 2020 Primary Election held in the state of Alabama (Attachment 2).

On April 8, 2020, Robert Phillips III, the Committee’s Treasurer, called the Reports Analysis Division (RAD) Analyst regarding a 24-Hour Report that the Committee had failed to file. The Analyst advised that the 24-Hour Report should be filed as soon as possible and that the Committee could file an FEC Form 99 (Miscellaneous Electronic Submission) to provide additional information for the public record (Attachment 3).

On April 9, 2020, the Committee filed its 2020 April Quarterly Report, covering the period from February 13, 2020 through March 31, 2020. The report included a Schedule E (Itemized Independent Expenditures) disclosing one (1) independent expenditure totaling \$25,214.00 made in support of one (1) Federal candidate (Image 202004099216617967).

On the same date, the Committee filed one (1) 24-Hour Report to support one (1) independent expenditure totaling \$25,214.00 disseminated on February 24, 2020 (Images 202004099216617954-55). The Committee attached memo text to the report, stating:

“This expenditure was discovered and determined to qualify for Schedule E reporting during drafting of the April Quarterly Report. Grit PAC has previously filed a timely Independent Expenditure Report and is submitting this upon discovery” (Image 202004099216617955).

On April 30, 2020, a Request for Additional Information (RFAI) was sent to the Committee referencing the 2020 April Quarterly Report. The RFAI noted that the Committee may have failed to timely file one (1) or more of the required 24-Hour Reports regarding independent expenditures. A chart was included with the RFAI identifying one (1) independent expenditure, totaling \$25,214.00, for which a 24-Hour Report had not been timely filed (Images 202004300300067083-85, Attachment 2).

On May 1, 2020, the Committee filed an FEC Form 99 in response to the RFAI referencing the 2020 April Quarterly Report. The Committee stated, in part:

“Please accept this response to an RFAI filed April 30th 2020 regarding an alleged failure to timely file a last minute independent expenditure report. This committee discovered there was in fact a failure to file said report while reconciling accounts in preparation for the April Quarterly 2020 Report. Upon realization, Grit PAC contacted the FEC to self-report and file the missing report. Prior filings show proper reporting and a desire to maintain full compliance. This report must have been missed during a heavy primary schedule and Grit PAC will educate staff and consultants on the proper filing requirements” (Image 202005019232351908).

On June 16, 2020, the Analyst attempted to call Mr. Phillips two separate times, but both calls disconnected without the option to leave a voicemail (Attachment 3).

On June 30, 2020, the Analyst emailed Mr. Phillips and requested a return call to discuss the 2020 April Quarterly Report (Attachment 3).

Later the same date, Mr. Phillips called in response to the email. The Analyst explained that the 24-Hour Report had not been timely filed and may be referred to another Commission office for further action; however, the Committee could provide further clarification for the public record via an FEC Form 99, if necessary (Attachment 3).

To date, no further communications have been received from the Committee regarding this matter.

GRIT PAC (C00656314)

2020 April Quarterly Report, received 4/9/2020

24-Hour Report Not Timely Filed

Name of Payee	Date of Dissemination (Schedule E)	Expenditure Amount	Candidate Supported	Election	24-Hour Report Filed
Armada Strategies, LLC	2/24/2020	\$25,214.00 <i>24-Hour Report Required</i>	Thomas H Tuberville	Alabama - 2020 Primary (3/3/2020)	4/9/2020