

# Supplement to AOR 1998-22

October 2, 1998

Subject: FEC advisory opinion/questions/AOR 1998-22

## Leo Smith's Response to Questions Posed by Bradley Litchfield

**Question 1. What costs, if any, were paid by you or any other person to register or acquire any domain name for the Koskoff web site that you created?**

**Answer:** The domain name E-SOURCE.COM was registered with InterNIC in 1996 for a fee of \$100 for the first two years. Fees are now \$35 per year. E-SOURCE.COM was originally established in 1996 as a web site address for overseeing the web sites constructed by me for several trade Associations within Connecticut. Later, each association purchased their own URL (Connecticut State Dental Association URL is CSDA.ORG; Connecticut Chiropractic Association is CHIROPRACTOR.ORG; and Connecticut Dental Hygienists Association is CDHA.COM). Currently the E-SOURCE.COM URL is used by Capital Ventures Group to display information regarding its services. The \$35 fee to InterNIC for 1998 was paid by Capital Ventures Group. There is no cost or charge for any additional sublistings off the E-SOURCE.COM URL. Examples of existing extensions off the E-SOURCE.COM URL include

<http://www.e-source.com/bni>

<http://www.e-source.com/figurines>

<http://www.e-source.com/schwaber>

<http://www.e-source.com/bruning>

<http://www.e-source.com/showcase>

With the \$35 annual fee to InterNIC already paid in the course of ongoing business by Capital Ventures Group to maintain its site at E-SOURCE.COM, there is no additional fee for creating a /koskoff sublisting, nor is there any additional charge for creating a sublisting for /showcase, /figurines, /bni, or any other sublisting off the main URL. There was no cost paid by me or any other person to register or acquire any domain name for the Koskoff web site that I created.

**Question 2. What costs, if any, were (or will be) paid by you or any other person to administer and maintain the Koskoff web site?**

**Answer:** None. The site is administered and maintained by me personally from my computer. No money is paid to any third party to administer or maintain the E-SOURCE.COM website, since I do it all myself. All work done creating and maintaining the website is done from my personal residence.

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**Question 3. What entity owns (holds title) to the computer hardware and software you used to create and maintain the Koskoff web site? We assume it is Capital Ventures Group, LLC ("CVG"). If so, please describe that entity stating the extent (%) of your ownership interest and that of any other person. Also state what position(s) you hold in CVG. If the hardware and software is owned by a different entity, or by you as your personal property, please indicate that and explain the circumstances.**

**Answer: CVG and Leo Smith jointly own the computer hardware. Some parts were paid for out of the CVG checking account in 1996 and some parts were paid for separately by Leo Smith, such as 56K Modem, most software, Jazz Drive and Zip drive and other ad ons. CVG is a business entity that I operate as a home business from my home at 1060 Mapleton Avenue, Suffield, CT 06078. There are no other owners or partners. I am 100% owner, and President.**

**Question 4. Identify any software that you used to create the Koskoff web site, the date of purchase, and its original acquisition cost. State whether you have used the software to create any other websites featuring candidates for Federal office. If there are other such web sites, identify them, and state the URL for each one that is currently active.**

**There was no special software used to create the Koskoff web site. All of the HTML coding was done longhand by me. The software was NOTEPAD, which is a software included under ACCESSORIES in all Windows software systems. Below is a copy of the HTML coding used to create the Koskoff website, together with the file attachment:**

~~~~~  
**HTML CODING BELOW**  
~~~~~

```
<HTML>
<Head>
<TITLE>
Defeat Nancy Johnson
</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BGCOLOR="#FFFFFFC0" link="red" vlink="#ff0000" alink="#00a000">
<TABLE BORDER=0><TR><TD bgcolor="#ff0000"><FONT
COLOR="#FFFFFF"><STRONG>
Voters In Connecticut's Sixth Congressional District:</TD></TR></TABLE>
<CENTER><TABLE BORDER=0><TR><TD><Strong><Font Size=+2><FONT
COLOR="#ff0000"><CENTER>ARE<BR>YOU<BR>DISGUSTED?</CENTER></F
ONT></TD><TD><Strong><Font size=-1>with the fact that the Republican
```



~~~~~  
END HTML CODING  
~~~~~

In addition to the HTML coding, there were graphical elements created for the koskoff site. Specifically, the graphics are identified in the HTML coding as follows:  
nancy1.gif ... depicts the words "SUPPORT PRESIDENT CLINTON DEFEAT NANCY JOHNSON"  
KOSKOFFANIMATED.gif ...depicts a blinking KOSKOFF alternating between Blue and Red colors  
cash.gif ...depicts the button that reads "CASH"  
volunteer.gif ...depicts the button that reads "WORK"  
mail.gif ...depicts the globe next to the email address at the bottom.  
All 5 graphical elements were create with a software program called CorelXARA 2.0 which was purchased on or about September 2, 1998 by me by download. The charge for the software was \$89.00. The purchase was made specifically to enhance graphical elements to be used on a new Members Only site under construction for the Connecticut Chiropractic Association.

As to the second part of the question, regarding the use of the software to create other web sites, I posted an email message to several political discussion groups and invited anyone interested to copy the HTML coding to create their own web site. As of this date, I have no specific knowledge of any other site using the HTML coding I created to create a similar site concerning a federal election. The content of the email message was as follows:

~~~~~  
Email Message Below <barter@ntplx.net>  
~~~~~

-----Original Message-----

From: Leo Smith <barter@ntplx.net>  
To: info@noprivacy.org <info@noprivacy.org>  
Cc: declan@well.com <declan@well.com>; action@eff.org <action@eff.org>; gary@essential.org <gary@essential.org>  
Date: Friday, September 25, 1998 8:13 PM  
Subject: No Privacy for Privacy Hypocrites

>Many Americans feel that the Republican majority Congress is way out of line  
>in the way they are handling the the Monica Lewinsky matter. In my  
>congressional district, incumbent Republican Nancy Johnson is running for  
>reelection. As a direct protest to the Republican majority handling of the  
>Monica Lewinsky matter, a web site advocating the support of President  
>Clinton and the defeat of Nancy Johnson through the election of her Democrat

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>opponent has been created at  
><http://www.e-source.com/koskoff>  
>  
>To bring additional pressure on other Republican incumbents running  
>reelection to the House, it may be helpful to create a similar web site to  
>support the local Democrat opponent. Any person interested in using similar  
>tactics  
>1) has permission to use the HTML code from <http://www.e-source.com/koskoff>  
>to set up a site for the opponent of the Republican incumbent, and  
>2) can have the web page hosted for them, at no cost, if they need someone  
>to host the site.  
>  
>Please feel free to distribute this offer as wide as possible.  
>  
>Leo Smith  
>860 668 4000  
>fax 860 668 6688

The above constitutes my answers to the questions posed by your email of October 1, 1998.



Leo Smith