

AOR 2011-17

GIFFORDS FOR CONGRESS

August 17, 2011

Federal Election Commission
Office of General Counsel
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20463

Attention: Christopher Hughey, Acting General Counsel

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FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
2011 AUG 17 PM 5:23
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

Dear Mr. Hughey,

I am writing to seek an expedited advisory opinion from the Federal Election Commission (FEC) regarding recommended security improvements to the family home where Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (AZ-08) resides while she is receiving rehabilitation.

On January 8, 2011, Rep. Giffords was shot and severely wounded at an event sponsored by her congressional office. Since January, Rep. Giffords has been undergoing treatment at TIRR Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston, TX. She was recently transferred to outpatient rehabilitation, allowing her to return to the family residence when she is not receiving treatment.

At the request of the House Sergeant of Arms, the United States Capitol Police (USCP) conducted a security assessment of the family home and her general threat risk using USCP standards and best industry practices. After that assessment, the USCP made several recommendations to increase the security of the home that are specific to the identified needs of Rep. Giffords' security, and include improved exterior lighting, improving locks in the home, and the installation of a duress alarm button. The estimated cost of the recommendations is \$2,200. These improvements are not intended to increase the value of the property.

Since the attack on Rep. Giffords occurred at a congressional activity, I am inquiring whether the costs of these safety measures may be covered by Rep. Giffords' campaign funds.

If you have any questions or require any additional information regarding this request, please reach me with the contact information listed below. Thank you for your review of this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael McNulty
Chairman, Giffords for Congress

www.GiffordsforCongress.com

Paid for by Giffords for Congress

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