

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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COMMISSION
1974

In the Matter of

2021-5-20 A.D. 40

Chupong Kanchanalak
Praitun Kanchanalak

MUR 4530

SENSITIVE

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

ACTIONS RECOMMENDED

Take no further action with respect to Chupong Kanchanalak

18 or Praiun Kanchanalak and close the file with respect to those two respondents.

19 II. BACKGROUND

20 These matters under review concern the respondents' violations of key elements of the
21 Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), which bar foreign nationals
22 from making any political contributions or donations (2 U.S.C. § 441e(a)) and forbid anyone to
23 make contributions in the name of another in connection with federal elections (2 U.S.C. § 441d).

24 On June 17, 1997, the Commission found reason to believe that Pauline Kanchanalak, her
25 sister-in-law Duangnct Kronenberg, and her mother-in-law Praitun Kanchanalak had violated
26 2 U.S.C. §§ 441c and 441f in connection with contributions and donations to the Democratic
27 National Committee ("DNC") and other political committees during the period 1992-1996. On

1) June 2, 1998, the Commission found reason to believe that Pauline Kanchanalak's husband
2) Chupong Kanchanalak had violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441e and 441f in connection with this same
3) activity. This Office was able to serve the reason to believe documents on Pauline Kanchanalak
4) and Duangnet Kronenberg.

5 However, despite diligent efforts, this Office was unable to serve reason to believe
6 documents on Praitun or Chupong Kanchanalak. It appears that both of those respondents were
7 in Thailand at the times service was attempted, and there was no indication that either planned to
8 travel to the United States. The reason to believe materials related to Praitun Kanchanalak were
9 sent to an address in Virginia in July 1997, but they were returned, marked "Unclaimed—Return
10 to Sender." With regard to Chupong Kanchanalak, this Office sent the materials to an address in
11 Thailand obtained from the Department of Justice in November 1998. Unfortunately, we could
12 not confirm Chupong Kanchanalak's whereabouts or his receipt of these materials. The
13 Department of Justice was unable to provide a current address for Praitun Kanchanalak. Because
14 of respondents' unavailability, along with this Office's view that they were not the primary
15 orchestrators of the conduct at issue here, this matter did not proceed to the probable cause stage
16 as to Praitun or Chupong Kanchanalak. This Office therefore recommends that the Commission
17 take no further action against those two respondents.

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7 **V. GENERAL COUNSEL'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

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17 3. Take no further action with respect to Chupong Kanchanalak or Praitun Kanchanalak
18 and close the file as to those respondents.
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20 4.
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22 5. Approve the appropriate letters.

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24 Date

25 7/2. 1101

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29 Lois G. Lerner
30 Acting General Counsel

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35 Exhibits: