



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20463

September 2, 1998

Katharine R. Boyce, Esq.  
Jeffrey L. Ross, Esq.  
Patton Boggs, L.L.P.  
2550 M St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037

RE: MUR 4761  
Association of Trial Lawyers of  
America Political Action Committee  
and Dan Cohen, as treasurer

Dear Ms. Boyce and Mr. Ross:

This is in response to your letter dated August 3, 1998, which we received the same day, in which you responded to the Federal Election Commission's ("Commission") reason to believe finding in connection with the above-cited matter. To hold MUR 4761 in abeyance as per your request would be inappropriate. Pursuant to the Commission's procedures for processing possible violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), the Office of the General Counsel is conducting an investigation into MUR 4761. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2); 11 C.F.R. § 111.10. In the context of that investigation the Commission will be seeking information to resolve the affiliation issue that you cited in your request. Accordingly, absent a request for pre-probable cause conciliation, this Office will proceed with its investigation of this matter and will inform you in due course about any actions anticipated with regard to your clients. As noted in your letter, ATLAPAC will have an additional opportunity to respond prior to any Commission vote on probable cause.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

*Thomas J. Andersen*

Thomas J. Andersen  
Attorney