



REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO

JOHN DENDAHL
Chairman

RESPONSE ADDRESS:
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November 24, 1998

Federal Election Commission
Office of the General Counsel
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Re: MUR 4830

Daniel F. Haft is among the parties against whom the Republican Party of New Mexico complained in the matter cited above. On or about November 15, 1998, Mr. Haft wrote to us protesting our complaint against him, and he indicated that a copy of that letter was sent to you.

Our complaint against Mr. Haft and others was based entirely on reports filed with the FEC by the Udall campaign, certified as "true, correct and complete" by Jill Z. Cooper (Assistant Treasurer) or Timothy L. Garcia (Treasurer). Udall's October 15 report (quarterly report), certified by Ms. Cooper, listed the second of Mr. Haft's two \$1,000 contributions as a primary election contribution. That made \$2,000 for the primary, which is illegally excessive and was the basis of our complaint against him.

Mr. Udall, currently Attorney General of New Mexico, is a self-styled expert on campaign finance. In fact, recent news reports of his congressional priorities list campaign finance reform at the top. One would have expected that he could at least get a campaign finance report right. Nonetheless, an amended report filed subsequent to our complaint apparently reclassified over 1,500 contributions, including the second \$1,000 contribution from Mr. Haft, as general election contributions.

From Mr. Haft's explanation of his \$2,000 in contributions to the Udall campaign, which is consistent with the Udall campaign's amended report, we have no objection to his being dismissed from our complaint.

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We call attention of the General Counsel to a new concern inferred from the Udall campaign's many reports and amendments filed after the June 2, 1998 primary election. We have previously complained of the Udall campaign's accepting primary election contributions subsequent to the primary, despite having reported no primary election debt. They amended to report that they did, indeed, have primary election debt, and a letter dated October 30, 1998 from Jill Z. Cooper to Ms. Robin Kelly is yet another attempt to revise the record.

From Ms. Cooper's letter, it appears that at least some debt from the primary was paid with money from contributions received for the general election. *However, the Udall campaign appears to have continued receiving primary election contributions to repay that same indebtedness, a practice we understand to be illegal.*

Sincerely,



John Dendaht
Chairman

cc: Daniel F. Haft