



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

June 10, 1999

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. John Isaacson
646 West Galena
Butte, MT 59701

RE: MUR 4864

Dear Mr. Isaacson:

On November 24, 1998, the Federal Election Commission received your complaint alleging certain violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act").

After considering the circumstances of this matter, the Commission has determined to exercise its prosecutorial discretion and to take no action against the respondents. See attached narrative. Accordingly, the Commission closed its file in this matter on June 10, 1999. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days.

The Act allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Andrew Turley".

F. Andrew Turley
Supervisory Attorney
Central Enforcement Docket

Attachment
Narrative

MUR 4864

MISSOURIANS FOR KIT BOND

John Isaacson alleges that Senator Kit Bond used federal money to travel to Butte, Montana on August 12, 1998 for the purpose of raising funds for his reelection campaign. Mr. Isaacson alleges that Senator Bond met with Donald Peoples, CEO of MSE, Inc., MSE employees, and community leaders during his visit, and that the trip generated \$11,000 in campaign contributions. Mr. Isaacson points out that Senator Bond serves on Senate committees dealing directly with appropriations that affect MSE. Mr. Isaacson also alleges that Mr. Peoples may have pressured employees into make the contributions, and suggests that some may have been reimbursed. Senator Bond won Missouri's 1998 General election with 53% of the vote to Jay Nixon's 44%.

Missourians for Kit Bond responds that many of the allegations, in its view, are outside the FEC's jurisdiction. Respondent explains that it paid for Senator Bond's flight to Montana where, after a breakfast and tour of a Superfund facility, MSE PAC, the corporation's political action committee, organized a fund-raising luncheon. MSE PAC reported the \$500 cost of the fundraising event and the cost of Senator Bond's lodging.

Mr. Peoples and MSE confirm in their joint response that Senator Bond toured the MSE facility, and that Peoples organized a separate fundraising luncheon on his own time. Respondents state that MSE PAC paid for and reported the disbursements for the luncheon and the Senator's lodgings. Respondents state that approximately 30 townspeople and 12 MSE employees attended the fund-raiser, and 13 MSE employees contributed approximately \$10,000 to the campaign. They also deny charges that Peoples pressured employees to contribute, or that MSE reimbursed any contributions. MSE and Peoples question the credibility and motive of the complainant in their response, indicating that "bad blood" may have developed between he and the company over an unrelated dispute about siting for a former MSE project.

This matter is less significant relative to other matters pending before the Commission.