

MAYNARD, COOPER & GALE, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1901 SIXTH AVENUE NORTH

2400 AM SOUTH/HARBERT PLAZA

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203-2618

(205) 254-1000

FACSIMILE (205) 254-1999

Direct Dial No. (205) 254-1036

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

APR 6 10 35 AM '99

Gregory H. Hawley

April 5, 1999

Pre-Mur 376

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Ms. Lois Lerner
Associate General Counsel
Enforcement Division
Federal Election Commission
909 E. Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20463

Dear Ms. Lerner:

This morning, I was retained by the Alabama Democratic Party to provide advice and counsel on certain Federal Election Commission issues that only recently came to the attention of the Party. I have made a brief investigation by interviewing several employees of the Alabama Democratic Party.

First, I want this letter to be treated as the first step in a "self reporting" procedure. Second, I would like for this letter to be the commencement of a conciliation process whereby the FEC and the Alabama Democratic Party develop a series of remedial measures to avoid problems in the future.

Based upon my preliminary investigation, it appears that the Alabama Democratic Party failed to file FEC reports for the period covering calendar 1998. It appears that the most recent FEC report filed by the Alabama Democratic Party was filed in January of 1998, covering the last reporting period of 1997.

The primary "cause" of this non-filing was the retirement at the end of 1996 of the Party's long time consultant, Ms. Sara Jane Tackett, who supervised FEC filings through 1996. We are fortunate that Ms. Tackett has agreed to undertake the task of compiling the data for 1998 and make an appropriate filing.

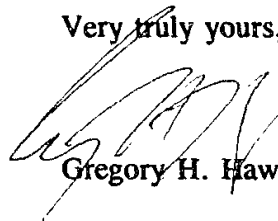
The Alabama Democratic Party has also engaged the services of Joe Sandler, of the Washington, D.C. law firm of Sandler & Reiff. Mr. Sandler and I will contact you soon to discuss this matter further. In the meantime, Ms. Tackett will

Ms. Lois Lerner
April 5, 1999
Page 2.

also be contacting Mr. Neil Evans to determine the mechanism for making an appropriate FEC report covering calendar year 1998.

I look forward to speaking with you soon. In the meantime, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Very truly yours,



Gregory H. Hawley

GHH/ncr

cc: Mr. Joe Sandler
Mr. Jack Miller
Mr. Giles Perkins