



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20463

January 10, 2000

Mr. Phil Balbani, President  
New England Cable News  
160 Wells Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459

RE: MUR 4956

Dear Mr. Balbani:

The Federal Election Commission received a complaint which indicates that New England Cable News may have violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 4956. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

Under the Act, you have the opportunity to demonstrate in writing that no action should be taken against New England Cable News in this matter. Please submit any factual or legal materials which you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath. Your response, which should be addressed to the General Counsel's Office, must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and § 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public. If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter, please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

If you have any questions, please contact Alva E. Smith at (202) 694-1650. For your information, we have enclosed a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling complaints.

Sincerely,



John R. Velasquez, Jr.  
Acting Central Enforcement Docket Supervisor

Enclosures

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

21-04-402-2962