



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

February 7, 2000

Jodie Robinson, Treasurer
Mississippi Democratic Party
Political Action Committee
832 N. Congress Street
Jackson, MS 39202

RE: MUR 4967
Mississippi Democratic Party
Political Action Committee and
Jodie Robinson, as treasurer

Dear Ms. Robinson:

On January 27, 2000, the Federal Election Commission found that there is reason to believe that the Mississippi Democratic Party Political Action Committee and you, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(i), (iii) and (iv), provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). The Factual and Legal Analysis, which formed a basis for the Commission's findings, is attached for your information.

You may submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission's consideration of this matter. Please submit such materials to the General Counsel's Office within 15 days of your receipt of this letter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath. In the absence of additional information, the Commission may find probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred and proceed with conciliation.

In order to expedite the resolution of this matter, the Commission has also decided to offer to enter into negotiations directed towards reaching a conciliation agreement in settlement of this matter prior to a finding of probable cause to believe. Enclosed is a conciliation agreement that the Commission has approved.

If you are interested in expediting the resolution of this matter by pursuing preprobable cause conciliation, and if you agree with the provisions of the enclosed agreement, please sign and return the agreement, along with the civil penalty, to the Commission. In light of the fact that conciliation negotiations, prior to a finding of probable cause to believe, are limited to a maximum of 30 days, you should respond to this notification as soon as possible.

Requests for extensions of time will not be routinely granted. Requests must be made in writing at least five days prior to the due date of the response and specific good cause must be demonstrated. In addition, the Office of the General Counsel ordinarily will not give extensions beyond 20 days.

Jodie Robinson, Treasurer
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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.

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 investigation to be made public.

For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling possible violations of the Act. If you have any questions, please contact Tracey C. Robinson, the staff attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,



Darryl R. Wold
Chairman

Enclosures

Factual and Legal Analysis
Procedures
Designation of Counsel Form
Conciliation Agreement

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

RESPONDENT: Mississippi Democratic Party MUR 4967
 Political Action Committee and
 Jodie Robinson, as treasurer

I. GENERATION OF MATTER

This matter was generated based on information ascertained by the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2).

II. FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

A. The Law

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), requires treasurers of political committees, to file periodic reports of receipts and disbursements. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(1). Political committees may choose to file reports either on a monthly or a quarterly basis. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4). In a calendar year in which a regularly scheduled general election is held, committees that choose to file on a quarterly basis shall file quarterly reports no later than the 15th day after the last day of each calendar quarter. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(i).

The statute also requires political committees to file a post-general election report no later than the 30th day after the general election, which shall be complete as of the 20th day after such general election. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(iii). In a non-election year, political committees must file a report covering the period beginning January 1 and ending June 30, which shall be filed no later than July 31 of the same calendar year and a

report beginning July 1 and ending December 31, which shall be filed no later than January 31 of the following calendar year. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(iv).

B. The Facts

The Mississippi Democratic Party Political Action Committee and Jodie Robinson, as treasurer, ("Committee") is a political committee that is not an authorized committee of a candidate, and has elected to file quarterly disclosure reports.

The Committee was required to file its 1997 Mid-Year Report no later than July 31, 1997. See 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(iv). The 1997 Mid-Year Report, which disclosed \$19,465.01 in receipts and \$19,246.75 in disbursements, was not filed until February 5, 1998, 189 days late.

The Committee was required to file its 1998 April Quarterly Report no later than April 15, 1998. See 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(iv). The 1998 April Quarterly Report, which disclosed \$4,941.44 in receipts and \$5,440.60 in disbursements, was not filed until December 14, 1998, 243 days late.

The Committee was required to file its 1998 July Quarterly Report no later than July 15, 1998. The 1998 July Quarterly Report, which disclosed \$6,067.11 in receipts and \$4,579.72 in disbursements, was not filed until December 14, 1998, 152 days late.

The Committee was required to file its 1998 October Quarterly Report no later than October 15, 1998. The 1998 October Quarterly Report, which disclosed \$5,075.00 in receipts and \$2,889.09 in disbursements, was not filed until December 14, 1998, 60 days late.

In addition, the Committee was required to file its 1998 30 Day Post-General Report no later than December 3, 1998. The 1998 30 Day Post-General Report, which

disclosed \$890.00 in receipts and \$341.45 in disbursements, was not filed until December 14, 1998, 11 days late.

Prior notices were mailed to the Committee informing it of the due dates for filing each of the reports at issue. Following each of the due dates, separate non-filer notices for each of the reports were mailed to the Committee noting its failure to file the reports at issue and advising it to file the reports immediately. Although the Committee was given prior notices of when to file the reports, it continued to submit reports after their due dates during the 1997-1998 election cycle.

Therefore, there is reason to believe the Mississippi Democratic Party Political Action Committee and Jodie Robinson, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(i), (iii) & (iv).