



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D C 20463

June 28, 2005

VIA FEDEX AND CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Tom Getz, Chairman
Rock Island Republican Central Committee
1001 16th Street, Suite 212
Moline, IL 61265

RE: MUR 5031

Dear Mr. Getz:

This is in reference to the complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") on June 15, 2000, concerning the Friends of Lane Evans and Samuel Gilman, as treasurer ("the Committee").

After conducting an investigation, the Commission found probable cause to believe that the Committee violated 2 U.S.C. § 441a(f), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). The Commission also found probable cause to believe that the 17th District Victory Fund and Christopher Hance, as current treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 433(b)(2), 441a(f), 441b, 434(b), and 11 C.F.R. § 106.5(e). In addition, the Commission found probable cause to believe that the Rock Island County Democratic Central Committee and John Gianulis, as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 433(a), 434, 441b, 441a(f) and 11 C.F.R. 102.5(a)(1).

The Commission was unable to settle the matter through conciliation and, therefore, filed a civil suit in United States District Court against the above named respondents. This litigation settled by the parties signing a stipulation for the Court to enter a consent judgment requiring Friends of Lane Evans to pay a civil penalty of \$185,000 and the Rock Island Democratic Central Committee to pay a civil penalty of \$30,000. The 17th District Victory Fund is required under the stipulation to terminate as a federal political committee. A copy of the stipulation filed with the Court is attached.

Earlier in the Enforcement investigation, the Commission had found no reason to believe that the J.V. Consulting Services; the Chicago and Central State Unite-PEC and James E. Skonicki, as treasurer; Solange MacArthur or Robert O. Muller; the Democratic Party of Illinois, and Michael Madigan, as chairman; and the Strategic Consulting Group, Inc. violated any provisions of the Act in this matter. The Commission also took no further action with respect to Michael Kasper, as treasurer of the Democratic Party of Illinois and Jeremy Karlin, as treasurer of the Knox County Democratic Central Committee, Congressman Lane Evans, Eric Nelson, and John Gianulis. The General Counsel's reports explaining these dispositions are attached.

The Commission's consideration of this matter was concluded on June 17, 2005, and the file is now closed. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,



Mark Shonkwiler
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosures:

First General Counsel's Report

General Counsel's Report #6

Memorandum to the Commission dated June 13, 2005

Amended Certification dated June 20, 2005

Stipulation for Entry of Consent Judgment, Case No. 04-CV-4003 (C.D. Ill.)

Consent Judgment, Case No. 04-CV-4003 (C.D. Ill.)

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