



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

May 25, 2001

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Don Benton, Treasurer
Benton for Congress
P.O. Box 5076
Vancouver, WA 98668

RE: MUR 5066

Dear Mr. Benton:

On May 17, 2001, the Federal Election Commission found that there is probable cause to believe Benton for Congress ("the Committee"), and you, as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(a)(6)(A) and 441a(f) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"); and 11 C.F.R. §103.3(b)(3), (4), and (5) in connection with failing to file 16 general election 48-Hour notices, as well as accepting and retaining excessive contributions in the amount of \$13,488.

The Commission has a duty to attempt to correct such violations for a period of at least 30 days and no more than 90 days by informal methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion, and by entering into a conciliation agreement with a respondent. If we are unable to reach an agreement after 30 days, the Commission may institute a civil suit in United States District Court and seek payment of a civil penalty.

Enclosed is a conciliation agreement that the Commission has approved in settlement of this matter. If you agree with the provisions of the enclosed agreement, please sign and return it, along with the civil penalty, to the Commission within ten days. I will then recommend that the Commission accept the agreement. Please make the check for the civil penalty payable to the Federal Election Commission.

If you have any questions or suggestions for changes in the enclosed conciliation agreement, or if you wish to arrange a meeting in connection with a mutually satisfactory conciliation agreement, please contact Albert R. Veldhuyzen, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,



Lois G. Lerner
Acting General Counsel

Enclosure
Conciliation Agreement

21.04.405.3309