



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

January 12, 2001

Carolyn Robertson, Treasurer
Citizens for the Republic
11321 Hunt Farm Lane
Oakton, VA 22124

RE: MUR 5165

Dear Ms. Robertson:

On January 10, 2001, the Federal Election Commission found that there is reason to believe Citizens for the Republic ("Committee") and you, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(i), a provision 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.

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

Ms. Carolyn Robertson

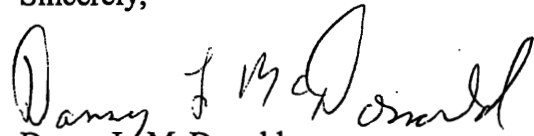
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counsel, and authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

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 Wendy Smallwood-Peele, the staff member assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,


Danny L. McDonald
Chairman

Enclosures

Factual and Legal Analysis

Procedures

Designation of Counsel Form

Conciliation Agreement

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

RESPONDENT: Citizens for the Republic
Carolyn Robertson, as treasurer

MUR 5165

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).

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), requires that all political committees other than authorized committees of a candidate shall file quarterly reports in a calendar year in which a regularly scheduled general election is held, which shall be filed no later than the 15th day after the last day of each calendar quarter, except that the report for the quarter ending on December 31 of such calendar year shall be filed no later than January 31 of the following calendar year. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(i).

The Citizens for the Republic ("the Committee") is a political committee that is not an authorized committee of a candidate. Carolyn Robertson is the treasurer of the Committee.

Respondents failed to timely file the 2000 April Quarterly Report of Receipts and Disbursements covering the period from January 1, 2000 to March 31, 2000. Respondents were required to file the 2000 April Quarterly Report no later than April 15, 2000. The 2000 April Quarterly Report, which disclosed \$2,477.14 in receipts and \$62,416.36 in disbursements, was not filed until July 5, 2000, 81 days late.

The Commission notified the Committee of the filing dates for the 2000 April Quarterly Report on two separate occasions by Prior Notices. The Prior Notices were mailed to the

Committee on December 29, 1999 and March 22, 2000. Both Prior Notices informed the Committee that the 2000 April Quarterly Report was due on April 15, 2000. A Non-Filer Notice was sent to the Committee via mailgram on May 10, 2000.

On June 8, 2000, the Reports Analysis Division ("RAD") analyst obtained one phone number and attempted to call Ms. Carolyn Robertson, the treasurer for the Committee, but Ms. Robertson was not at the number. The analyst asked to speak with Ms. Angela Buchanan, assistant treasurer, as she was the person referenced in the same document as the phone number. Ms. Buchanan was not available, so the analyst was transferred to her assistant. The analyst then left a message with Ms. Buchanan's assistant stating that it appeared the Committee had not filed the 2000 April Quarterly Report. The assistant stated she would have Ms. Buchanan return her call.

On June 15, 2000, the RAD analyst received a phone call from Sherry (last name unknown), who was calling for the treasurer of the Committee, Ms. Robertson. Sherry referenced the analyst's call to Ms. Buchanan, and said that Ms. Robertson was out of town and would return on the following Monday (June 19, 2000) to work on the 2000 April Quarterly Report. The analyst informed Sherry that if the report was not received soon, the Committee would be referred for legal action.

On June 28, 2000, the RAD analyst attempted to call Ms. Buchanan after not hearing from the Committee. Ms. Buchanan was not available, so the analyst left a message explaining that because the 2000 April Quarterly Report still had not been received the Committee would be referred for legal action. Once more the analyst asked for Ms. Buchanan to return her call. On July 5, 2000, the Committee filed their 2000 April Quarterly Report.

Therefore, there is reason to believe the Citizens for the Republic and Carolyn Robertson,
as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(A)(i).

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