



**FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

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RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

John Berthoud, President  
National Taxpayers Union  
108 North Alfred Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

February 20, 2004

RE: MUR 5197

Dear Mr. Berthoud:

This is in reference to the complaint you filed with the Federal Election Commission on April 16, 2001, concerning contributions made by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac") and the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae") to the non-federal accounts of several national party committees in violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a). The Commission found that there was reason to believe that Fannie Mae, the Republican National Committee and Michael L. Retzer, as treasurer ("RNC"), and the National Republican Senatorial Committee and Stan Huckaby, as treasurer ("NRSC"), violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, and conducted an investigation in this matter. On February 3, 2004, conciliation agreements signed by these respondents were accepted by the Commission.

The Commission also found reason to believe that Freddie Mac and the National Republican Congressional Committee and Christopher J. Ward, as treasurer ("NRCC"), violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a). After considering the circumstances of this matter, the Commission determined to take no further action against Freddie Mac and the NRCC. In addition, the Commission sent an admonishment to Freddie Mac. The Commission found no reason to believe that the following national party committees violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a): the 1997 Republican Senate-House Dinner Committee and Trudy Matthes Barksdale, as treasurer; the 1998 Republican House-Senate Dinner Committee and Trudy Matthes Barksdale, as treasurer; the 1999 Republican Senate-House Dinner Committee and Christopher J. Ward, as treasurer; the 2000 Republican House-Senate Dinner Committee and Christopher J. Ward, as treasurer; the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and James J. Bonham, as treasurer; the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee and James M. Jordan, as treasurer; and the DNC Services Corporation/Democratic National Committee and Andrew Tobias, as treasurer. Accordingly, the Commission closed the file in this matter on February 3, 2004.

24-04-407-0362

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Documents related to this case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. *See* Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003). Copies of the agreements with Fannie Mae, the RNC and the NRSC are enclosed for your information. In addition, copies of the dispositive General Counsel's Reports regarding this matter are enclosed.

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of an action. *See* 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8).

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lawrence H. Norton  
General Counsel

BY:  Lawrence L. Calvert, Jr.  
Deputy Associate General Counsel  
for Enforcement

Enclosures (by U.S. Mail only):  
Conciliation Agreements  
General Counsel's Reports