



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

OCT - 2 2002

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Carol Laham, Esq.
Wiley, Rein & Fielding
1776 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

RE: MUR 5294
Citizens for Reform

Dear Ms. Laham:

The Federal Election Commission has considered the allegations contained in the complaint dated November 4, 1996 filed by your client, Charmaine Murphy, on behalf of the Rick Hill for Congress Committee, which was designated as part of MURs 4568, 4633, 4634 and 4736. There was an insufficient number of votes to find probable cause to believe that Citizens for Reform ("CR") had violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 433, 434, 441a or 441b, provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, in connection with certain television advertisements that were sponsored by CR prior to the 1996 congressional election in Montana. Any forthcoming Statements of Reasons will be sent to you under separate cover.

On September 6, 2002, the Commission severed the portion of MURs 4568, 4633, 4634 and 4736 concerning Citizens for Reform and placed it into a new matter, designated MUR 5294. On the same date, the Commission closed MUR 5294. Accordingly, the confidentiality provisions at 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12) no longer apply and this matter is now public. MURs 4568, 4633, 4634 and 4736 remain open with respect to other respondents.

Because of restrictions recently placed on the Commission with respect to its making public investigative files in closed enforcement matters, the public record in this matter will consist of the relevant sections of the dispositive General Counsel's Reports, the relevant sections of the Certifications of the Commission's votes, Conciliation Agreements and Statements of Reasons. See American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations v. FEC, 177 F. Supp.2d 48 (D.D.C. 2001), appeal docketed, No. 02-5069 (D.C. Cir. Feb. 28, 2002). Copies of the relevant sections of the General Counsel's Reports and Certifications of the Commission's votes are enclosed.

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Please be advised that the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's decision. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8). If you have any questions, please contact Marianne Abely, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lawrence H. Norton
General Counsel



BY: Rhonda J. Vosdingh
Associate General Counsel
for Enforcement

Enclosures:
As stated.

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