



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D C 20463

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURNED RECEIPT REQUESTED

NOV 4 2004

Tony P. Trimble
Matthew W. Haapoja
Trimble & Associates, Ltd.
11700 Wayzata Boulevard
Minneapolis, MN 55305

RE: 5349
Minnesota Democratic-Farmer
Labor House Caucus
Joe Atkins, as Treasurer

Dear Messrs. Trimble and Haapoja:

This is in reference to the complaint you filed with the Federal Election Commission on February 21, 2003 concerning Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor House Caucus and Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor Party. On August 4, 2004, the Commission found that on the basis of information provided in your complaint, responses to the complaint, and information available to the public that there was reason to believe Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor House Caucus and Joe Atkins, as the treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441a(f), 441b, 434(a) provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the Act"), and conducted an investigation in this matter.

However, after considering the circumstances of this matter, the Commission accepted a conciliation agreement signed by the respondent on October 28, 2004. The Commission also found that there was reason to believe that Vance K. Opperman and Gerald L. Seck, violated 441a(a)(1)(C), but in the exercise of its prosecutorial discretion took no further action other than to send a letter of admonishment. In addition, the Commission found reason to believe that Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor Party, and Paul Schulte, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C, 441a(f), but in the exercise of its prosecutorial discretion took no further action other than to send a letter of admonishment. Accordingly, the Commission closed the file in this matter on October 28, 2004.

Documents related to the 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). A copy of the dispositive General Counsel's Report is enclosed for your information.

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

If you have any questions, please contact Camilla Jackson Jones, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lawrence H. Norton
General Counsel

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence L. Calvert, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

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

Enclosures
Conciliation Agreement
General Counsel's Report