



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D C 20463

JUL 30 2007

Neil P. Reiff, Esq.
Sandler, Reiff & Young, PC
Suite 300
50 E Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Re: MUR 5914
Democratic Party of Oklahoma
and Nina Ritchie, in her official
capacity as treasurer

Dear Mr. Reiff:

On July 23, 2007, the Federal Election Commission accepted the signed conciliation agreement submitted on your clients' behalf in settlement of a violation of 2 U.S.C. § 434(b), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). Accordingly, the file has been closed in this matter.

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). Information derived in connection with any conciliation attempt will not become public without the written consent of the respondent and the Commission. *See* 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B).

Enclosed you will find a copy of the fully executed conciliation agreement for your files. Please note that the civil penalty is due within 30 days of the conciliation agreement's effective date. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Dominique Dillenseger

Dominique Dillenseger
Attorney

Enclosure
Conciliation Agreement

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)

MUR: 5914

Democratic Party of Oklahoma and)
Nina Ritchie, in her official capacity as treasurer)

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COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

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CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

This matter was initiated by the Federal Election Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to information ascertained in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities.

The Commission found reason to believe that the Democratic Party of Oklahoma and Nina Ritchie, in her official capacity as treasurer ("Respondents"), violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(b).

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission and Respondents, having participated in informal methods of conciliation, prior to a finding of probable cause to believe, do hereby agree as follows.

I. The Commission has jurisdiction over Respondents and the subject matter of this proceeding, and this agreement has the effect of an agreement entered pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(A)(i)

II. Respondents have had a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate that no action should be taken in this matter.

III. Respondents enter voluntarily into this agreement with the Commission.

IV. The pertinent facts in this matter are as follows:

1. The Democratic Party of Oklahoma is a political committee within the meaning of 2 U.S.C. § 431(4), and is a "State Committee" pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 431(15) and 11 C.F.R. § 100.14(a).

2. Nina Ritchie is the treasurer of the Democratic Party of Oklahoma.

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3. The treasurer of a political committee must file reports of all receipts and disbursements in accordance with the Act. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(1). A committee filing on a monthly schedule shall file monthly reports by the 20th day of the following month and such reports shall disclose the total amount of all receipts for that reporting period and calendar year. 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(a)(4)(B) and 434(b)(2).

4. In any year in which a regularly scheduled general election is held, the committee shall file a pre-election report and post-general election report in lieu of the monthly reports ordinarily due in November and December of that year. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(4)(B); 11 C.F.R. § 104.5(c)(3)(ii). The pre-election report covers activity that occurred after the closing date of the previous report through the 20th day before the election, and is due no later than 12 days before the election. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(2)(A)(i) and (4)(A)(ii); 11 C.F.R. § 104.5(c)(1)(ii). The post-general election report covers activity that occurred after the closing date of the previous report through the 20th day after the general election, and is due no later than 30 days after the general election. 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(a)(2)(A)(ii) and (4)(A)(iii); 11 C.F.R. § 104.5(c)(1)(iii).

5. On October 21, 2004, the Committee filed its 2004 12-Day Pre-General Report. On March 8, 2005, the Committee filed an amendment to its 2004 12-Day Pre-General Report disclosing \$235,098.40 in additional receipts that were not disclosed in the original report.

6. On December 3, 2004, the Committee filed its 2004 30-Day Post-General Report. On January 24, 2006, the Committee filed an amendment to its 30-Day Post-General Report disclosing \$320,233.56 in additional debts owed by the Committee that were not disclosed in the original report.

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7 The Democratic Party of Oklahoma contends that these reporting errors were inadvertent and were due to internal miscommunications between compliance and campaign staff. The Committee contends that it has taken steps to ensure that such errors are not repeated in the future.

V. The Democratic Party of Oklahoma and Nina Ritchie, in her official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(b) by failing to report \$235,098.40 in receipts in its original 2004 12-Day Pre-General Report and \$320,233.56 in debts in its original 2004 30-Day Post-General Report.

VI. Respondents will cease and desist from violating 2 U.S.C. § 434(b).

VII. Respondents will pay a civil penalty to the Federal Election Commission in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000), pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(5)(A). Respondents shall have no more than 30 days from the effective date of the agreement to provide fifty percent of the total civil penalty amount, and 60 days from the effective date of the agreement to provide the remaining fifty percent of the total civil penalty amount. In the event that any installment payment is not received by the Commission by the fifth day after it becomes due, the Commission may, at its discretion, accelerate the remaining payments and cause the entire amount to become due upon ten days written notice to the Respondents. Failure by the Commission to accelerate the payments with regard to any overdue installment shall not be construed as a waiver of its right to do so with regard to future overdue installments.

VIII. The Commission, on request of anyone filing a complaint under 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(1) concerning the matters at issue herein or on its own motion, may review compliance with this agreement. If the Commission believes that this agreement or any requirement thereof

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has been violated, it may institute a civil action for relief in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

IX. This agreement shall become effective as of the date that all parties hereto have executed same and the Commission has approved the entire agreement.

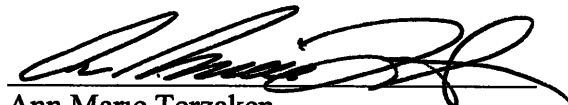
X. Except as provided in Section VII of this agreement, Respondent shall have no more than 30 days from the date this agreement becomes effective to comply with and implement the requirements contained in this agreement and to so notify the Commission.

XI. This Conciliation Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on the matters raised herein, and no other statement, promise, or agreement, either written or oral, made by either party or by agents of either party, that is not contained in this written agreement shall be enforceable

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Thomasenia P. Duncan
General Counsel

BY:


Ann Marie Terzaken
Acting Associate General Counsel
for Enforcement

Date

7/27/07

FOR THE RESPONDENTS:

Neil Reiff
Counsel

Date

7/13/07

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