



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 10, 2011

Via first class mail and electronic mail

Email: tpotter@capdale.com

Trevor Potter, Esq.
Caplin & Drysdale, Chartered
One Thomas Circle, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005

RE: MUR 6403
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, *et al.*

Dear Mr. Potter:

On October 28, 2010, the Federal Election Commission notified your clients, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Aleut Corporation, Bering Straits Native Corporation, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Calista Corporation, Chugach Alaska Corporation, Cook Inlet Region, Inc., Doyon, Limited, Koniag, Inc., and Sealaska Corporation, of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint was forwarded to your clients at that time.

On November 1, 2011, the Commission found, on the basis of the information in the complaint, and information provided by your clients, that there is no reason to believe Aleut Corporation, Bering Straits Native Corporation, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Calista Corporation, Chugach Alaska Corporation, Cook Inlet Region, Inc., Doyon, Limited, Koniag, Inc., and Sealaska Corporation violated 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1). In addition, the Commission has determined to exercise its prosecutorial discretion and dismiss the allegations that Arctic Slope Regional Corporation violated 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1), pursuant to *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821 (1985). Accordingly, the Commission closed its file 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) and Statement of Policy Regarding Placing First General Counsel's Reports on the Public Record, 74 Fed. Reg. 66132 (Dec. 14, 2009). The Factual and Legal Analyses, which explain the Commission's decision, is enclosed for your information.

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Letter to Mr. Potter, Esq.
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If you have any questions, please contact Christine C. Gallagher the attorney assigned to this matter at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan L. Lebeaux". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" being more prominent.

Susan L. Lebeaux
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure
Factual and Legal Analyses (2)

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**FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

RESPONDENT: Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

MUR 6403

I. BACKGROUND

This matter was generated by a complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission by the Joe Miller for U.S. Senate campaign, by Linda Johnson, Member. *See* 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(1). Complainant alleges that Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (“Arctic Slope”) is a government contractor that knowingly and willfully violated 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1) by making contributions to Alaskans Standing Together and Barbara Donatelli, in her official capacity as treasurer (“AST”), a political action committee that made independent expenditures to influence the 2010 U.S. Senate general election in Alaska. Arctic Slope denies the allegations, stating that (1) the contributions made to AST were permissible because it is not a government contractor as defined by Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (“the Act”), and the Commission’s regulations; (2) Arctic Slope was exercising its First Amendment speech rights when it made independent expenditures by contributing to AST, an independent-expenditure-only political committee; and (3) in the context of independent spending, the Act at 2 U.S.C. § 441c and the Commission’s regulation at 11 C.F.R. § 115.2, which prohibit government contractors’ contributions, are contrary to *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 130 S. Ct. 876 (2010) (“*Citizens United*”), and *SpeechNow.org. v. Federal Election Commission*, 599 F.3d 686 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (“*SpeechNow*”).

For the reasons set forth below, the Commission has determined to exercise its prosecutorial discretion and dismiss the allegations that Arctic Slope Regional Corporation violated 441c(a)(1). *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821 (1985).

II. FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

A. Factual Background

AST, an independent-expenditure-only political committee, registered with the Commission on September 23, 2010. According to AST's Statement of Organization, it is a political action committee that supports/opposes more than one Federal candidate and is not a separate segregated fund or party committee. AST's disclosure reports filed with the Commission show that in 2010, it made independent expenditures that supported Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski and opposed Joe Miller's candidacy in Alaska's 2010 U.S. Senate general election. Joe Miller won the Republican nomination for Alaska's 2010 Senate seat in the primary election, but lost the general election to incumbent Republican Senator Lisa Murkowski, who ran as a write-in candidate. The complaint alleges that AST is a "front group" for Senator Murkowski, and that Arctic Slope, which made contributions to AST, obtained federal contracts through "earmarks" from Senator Murkowski.

Arctic Slope is an Alaska Native Corporation ("ANC") because it was formed pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, a federal law that extinguished aboriginal claims within the state of Alaska. The Commission has opined that ANCs are not "organized by authority of any law of Congress" for purposes of 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a)'s prohibitions. *See* Advisory Opinion 1982-28 (Sealaska). Arctic Slope wholly owns subsidiaries that are federal government contractors.

Arctic Slope made a \$140,000 contribution to AST on September 30, 2010, and another \$60,000 contribution to AST on October 27, 2010. Arctic Slope has a lease agreement with the federal government to supply office space. Specifically, Arctic Slope

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1 has leased office space to the Transportation Security Administration ("TSA") since 2006
2 and receives \$2,400 each month, or \$28,800 annually, directly from the federal
3 government. According to the lease agreement, Arctic Slope leased approximately 800
4 square feet of office space in Barrow, Alaska, to the United States for a period of time
5 beginning October 1, 2006, for a term of 5 years. Under the terms of the lease
6 agreement, Arctic Slope agreed to provide various services and utilities as part of the
7 rental of this space, including heat, electricity, water, snow removal, toilet supplies,
8 janitorial services and supplies, elevator service, window washing, carpet cleaning, initial
9 and replacement lamps, tubes and ballasts, and painting.

10 Arctic Slope contends that the rental is *de minimis*, the lease is a last resort for
11 TSA, and that it primarily benefits the public. It maintains that the proceeds from this
12 lease arrangement represent 0.0015% of Arctic Slope's gross revenue for 2009.
13 According to Arctic Slope, this lease agreement with the federal government was not
14 discovered by the personnel who decided to make the contribution to AST because the
15 lease was listed under another entity's name in Arctic Slope's records, the person who
16 was primarily responsible for responding to the government's requests concerning the
17 lease is no longer employed by Arctic Slope, and the lease is an isolated arrangement as
18 Arctic Slope does not market itself as a lessor to federal government entities. Arctic
19 Slope submitted an affidavit from a corporate officer stating that, other than this lease,
20 Arctic Slope is not a government contractor, it represents the business interests of the
21 Iñupiat Eskimos, and it had approximately \$1.128 billion in revenue during fiscal year
22 2009 that was attributable to activities and operations of Arctic Slope and its subsidiaries
23 that are not related to federal government contracting. The businesses of Arctic Slope

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1 and its subsidiaries include energy services, construction, petroleum refining, aerospace,
2 and tourism operations.

3 In addition, Arctic Slope argues that it is not a government contractor as defined
4 by the Act or the Commission regulations because leases are not types of contractual
5 agreements covered under the statutory or regulatory definitions. Arctic Slope contends
6 that while the Commission opined in Advisory Opinion 1984-53 (National Association of
7 Realtors), that leases equate to sales for purposes of 2 U.S.C. § 441c, the Commission did
8 so "without attempt to account for the exclusion of leases from the test or for possible
9 relevant distinctions between leases and sales." Therefore, Arctic Slope argues that
10 AO 1984-53 should not be applied to its lease agreement with the federal government.

11 Last, Arctic Slope argues that it was exercising its First Amendment speech rights
12 when it made its two contributions to AST for the purpose of making independent
13 expenditures. Arctic Slope relies on *Citizens United* to support its argument that because
14 its underlying activities are incapable of causing corruption or the appearance of
15 corruption, anti-corruption aims are not a "compelling interest" sufficient to validate
16 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)'s ban on independent speech. Therefore, Arctic Slope argues that the
17 prohibitions in 2 U.S.C. § 441c are not applicable to the facts of this matter.

18 **B. Legal Analysis**

19 The Act and the Commission's regulations prohibit government contractors from
20 making, directly or indirectly, any contribution or expenditure of money or other thing of
21 value, or to promise expressly or impliedly to make any such contribution or expenditure
22 to any political party, committee or candidate for public office or to any person for any

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1 political purpose. 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1); 11 C.F.R. § 115.2(a) and (b).¹ A “federal
2 contractor” is defined in terms of the substance of the contract and the source of funds for
3 payment of performance of the contract. 2 U.S.C. § 441c; 11 C.F.R. § 115.1. With
4 respect to the substance of the contract, it includes the rendering of personal services, the
5 furnishing of materials, supplies, or equipment, or the selling of land or buildings.

6 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1); 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(a)(1); *see* Advisory Opinion 1984-53 (National
7 Association of Realtors) (lessor of land to federal agency is also considered a government
8 contractor). The prohibition applies if payment to the contractor is to be made in whole
9 or in part from funds appropriated by Congress. 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1);

10 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(a)(2). The prohibition extends for the period of time between the
11 earlier of the commencement of negotiations or when requests for proposals are sent out,
12 and the later of the completion of performance or the termination of negotiations for such
13 contract. 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1); 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(b). The Act and the Commission’s
14 regulations further prohibit any person from knowingly soliciting any contributions from
15 government contractors who are in negotiations for a federal government contract or
16 during the performance of their contract. 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(2) and 11 C.F.R. § 115.2(c).

17 When determining whether a committee has received, or that an entity has made,
18 a contribution in violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441c, the Commission looks first to whether the
19 entity met the statutory and regulatory definition of government contractor at the time the
20 contribution was made. *See* MUR 6300 (Gen X Strategies); MUR 5666 (MZM); MUR
21 5645 (Highmark); MUR 4901 (Rust Environmental); and MUR 4297 (Ortho

¹ The entities alleged to be government contractors in MUR 6403 are all corporations; the constitutionality of 2 U.S.C. § 441c as applied to individuals is currently the subject of litigation. *See Wagner v. FEC*, No. 11-CV-1841 (D. D.C. filed Oct. 19, 2011).

1 Pharmaceutical). In the case of a parent company contributor, if it can demonstrate that it
2 is, in fact, a separate and distinct legal entity from its government contractor subsidiaries,
3 and that it had sufficient funds to make the contributions from non-subsidiary income,
4 then the prohibition on contributions by government contractors would not extend to the
5 parent company. *See* Advisory Opinion 2005-01 (Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians)
6 (the government contractor status of a tribal corporation, a distinct and separate legal
7 entity from the tribe, does not prohibit the tribe from making contributions to federal
8 candidates, political parties, and political committees as long as the tribe does not use
9 revenues from tribal corporation to make contributions), *citing* Advisory Opinion 1999-
10 32 (Tohono O'odham Nation) (the commercial activity of the Indian tribe's utility
11 authority as a government contractor treated as separate from the tribe and its political
12 activities).

13 Arctic Slope has a lease with the federal government to supply office space to a
14 federal agency. Arctic Slope leases office space to TSA, provides various services,
15 supplies, and utilities under that lease agreement, and receives \$28,800 a year in direct
16 payment from the federal government. Based on the available information, TSA makes
17 the rental payments to Arctic Slope with funds appropriated by Congress. *See* 11 C.F.R.
18 § 115.1(a)(2).

19 In AO 1984-53 (National Association of Realtors), the Commission concluded
20 that a lessor of real property to the federal government would be covered by the
21 prohibitions of 2 U.S.C. § 441c and, therefore, would be prohibited from making
22 contributions to federal candidates and committees. 11 C.F.R. § 115.2. The Commission
23 viewed the lease of real property as a contract for "selling any land or buildings" within

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1 the meaning of 2 U.S.C. § 441c and 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(a)(1)(iii) because a lease of real
2 property creates an estate in the tenant for a term of years, in effect, representing the sale
3 of an interest in land or buildings, with the rent as the purchase price, and creates a
4 continuing relationship between the lessor and lessee supporting the application of the
5 statutory prohibition to a lease agreement. *See* AO 1984-53. In addition, the
6 Commission noted that lease agreements usually contain explicit contractual provisions
7 regarding repairs, furnishing of utilities, and other matters, and that such provisions can
8 be viewed as contracts for the rendition of personal services or for the furnishing of
9 material supplies, or equipment. *Id.*; 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(a)(1)(i) and (ii).

10 Arctic Slope's office space lease agreement with the federal government not only
11 leases the rental space, but includes explicit provisions for Arctic Slope to make repairs,
12 and provide utilities, supplies, and services, such as snow removal and janitorial services,
13 to the federal agency renting the space.

14 Given these facts, Arctic Slope is a government contractor within the meaning of
15 the Act and the Commission's regulations. *See* 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1) and 11 C.F.R.
16 § 115.1(a); *see also* AO 1984-53. The analysis in AO 1984-53 is sound, it has been a
17 source of guidance for 27 years without any intervening precedent to the contrary, and it
18 applies precisely to the facts of this matter. *See also* Advisory Opinion 2008-11 (Brown)
19 (citing AO 1984-53 in analysis of 2 U.S.C. § 441c scenario). As a federal government
20 contractor, Arctic Slope is prohibited from making contributions toward any "political
21 party, committee or candidate for public office or to any person for any political purpose
22 or use." 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1).

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1 However, even though Arctic Slope appears to meet the definition of government
2 contractors under the Act and the Commission's regulations, given the unique facts in
3 this matter, the Commission has determined to exercise its prosecutorial discretion and
4 dismiss the allegation as to Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470
5 U.S. 821 (1985). Arctic Slope does not ordinarily enter into contracts with the federal
6 government, the executive officer who made the decision to contribute to AST has
7 averred he was not even aware of the existence of its lease arrangement until after the
8 complaint was filed.² Arctic Slope did not seek the lease in question. Rather, Arctic
9 Slope was approached by the TSA to lease certain office space only because the
10 government had no other options in the area, and it appears that the lease arrangement
11 primarily benefits the public.³ Moreover, the amount paid by the federal government for
12 the lease agreement is relatively small taking into consideration Arctic Slope's other
13 income and assets.⁴ Arctic Slope's lease arrangement, at a rate of \$28,800 a year,
14 represented only 0.0015% of Arctic Slope's gross revenue for 2009.⁵

15 Therefore, the Commission has determined to exercise its prosecutorial discretion
16 and dismiss the allegation that Arctic Slope Regional Corporation violated 2 U.S.C.
17 § 441c(a)(1). *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831 (1985).

² Arctic Slope Response at 2-3; Kristin Mellinger Affidavit at ¶¶ 6,7; Clay Contrades Affidavit at ¶¶ 2,4.

³ Arctic Slope Response at 2-3; Kristin Mellinger Affidavit at ¶ 7; Clay Contrades Affidavit at ¶¶ 2, 4.

⁴ Arctic Slope Response at 3; Kristin Mellinger Affidavit at ¶ 7.

⁵ *Id.*

Election Commission, 130 S. Ct. 876 (2010) (“*Citizens United*”), and *SpeechNow.org. v. Federal Election Commission*, 599 F.3d 686 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (“*SpeechNow*”).

For the reasons set forth below, the Commission has determined to find no reason to believe that Aleut Corporation, Bering Straits Native Corporation, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Calista Corporation, Chugach Alaska Corporation, Cook Inlet Region, Inc., Doyon, Limited, Koniag, Inc., and Scalaska Corporation (“Respondents”) violated 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1) because the available information shows that these companies are not government contractors.

II. FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

A. Factual Background

AST, an independent-expenditure-only political committee, registered with the Commission on September 23, 2010. According to AST’s Statement of Organization, it is a political action committee that supports/opposes more than one Federal candidate and is not a separate segregated fund or party committee. AST’s disclosure reports filed with the Commission show that in 2010, it made independent expenditures that supported Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski and opposed Joe Miller’s candidacy in Alaska’s 2010 U.S. Senate general election. Joe Miller won the Republican nomination for Alaska’s 2010 Senate seat in the primary election, but lost the general election to incumbent Republican Senator Lisa Murkowski, who ran as a write-in candidate. The complaint alleges that AST is a “front group” for Senator Murkowski, and that Respondents made contributions to AST obtained federal contracts through “earmarks” from Senator Murkowski.

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1 Respondents are collectively known as Alaska Native Corporations (“ANCs”)
2 because they were formed pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971,
3 a federal law that extinguished aboriginal claims within the State of Alaska. The
4 Commission has opined that ANCs are not “organized by authority of any law of
5 Congress” for purposes of 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a)’s prohibitions. *See* Advisory Opinion
6 1982-28 (Sealaska). Each is a parent company that wholly owns a number of
7 subsidiaries, some of which are federal government contractors.

8 These nine parent companies filed a joint response (“Aleut, *et al.* Response”)
9 denying that any of them met the statutory and regulatory definitions of government
10 contractor at the time they made their respective donations to AST, and stating that these
11 entities do not hold Federal government contracts. Generally, each of these ANCs
12 represents the business interests of their respective shareholders; their subsidiaries engage
13 in various business activities including communications, construction, aerospace,
14 petroleum, engineering, and tourism. They further argue that their contributions to AST
15 were permissible, even though some of their respective subsidiaries are government
16 contractors, because as parent companies, they are separate and distinct legal entities
17 from their government contractor subsidiaries, and they are able to demonstrate that their
18 revenue is sufficiently large to make these donations from non-subsidiary income.¹

19 The Aleut *et al.* Response alternatively argues that 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a) is
20 unconstitutional to the extent it is read to restrict these respondents’ contributions for the
21 purpose of funding independent expenditures, based on language in *Citizens United*, 130

¹ In addition, both Koniag and Sealaska receive public grants that serve public purposes and do not directly benefit the U.S. government. Koniag also receives funds for a conservation easement, as part of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council’s habitat restoration efforts.

1 S.Ct. at 910, that independent expenditures do not “lead to, or create the appearance of,
2 *quid pro quo* corruption” regardless of the speaker’s identity, and in the related holding in
3 *SpeechNow*.

4 **B. Legal Analysis**

5 The Act and the Commission’s regulations prohibit government contractors from
6 making, directly or indirectly, any contribution or expenditure of money or other thing of
7 value, or to promise expressly or impliedly to make any such contribution or expenditure
8 to any political party, committee or candidate for public office or to any person for any
9 political purpose. 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1); 11 C.F.R. § 115.2(a) and (b).² A “federal
10 contractor” is defined in terms of the substance of the contract and the source of funds for
11 payment of performance of the contract. 2 U.S.C. § 441c; 11 C.F.R. § 115.1. With
12 respect to the substance of the contract, it includes the rendering of personal services, the
13 furnishing of materials, supplies, or equipment, or the selling of land or buildings.
14 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1); 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(a)(1); *see* Advisory Opinion 1984-53 (National
15 Association of Realtors) (lessor of land to federal agency is also considered a government
16 contractor). The prohibition applies if payment to the contractor is to be made in whole
17 or in part from funds appropriated by Congress. 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1);
18 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(a)(2). The prohibition extends for the period of time between the
19 earlier of the commencement of negotiations or when requests for proposals are sent out,
20 and the later of the completion of performance or the termination of negotiations for such
21 contract. 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1); 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(b). The Act and the Commission’s

² The entities alleged to be government contractors in MUR 6403 are all corporations; the constitutionality of 2 U.S.C. § 441c as applied to individuals is currently the subject of litigation. *See Wagner v. FEC*, No. 11-CV-1841 (D. D.C. filed Oct. 19, 2011).

1 regulations further prohibit any person from knowingly soliciting any contributions from
2 government contractors who are in negotiations for a federal government contract or
3 during the performance of their contract. 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(2) and 11 C.F.R. § 115.2(c).

4 When determining whether a committee has received, or that an entity has made,
5 a contribution in violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441c, the Commission looks first to whether the
6 entity met the statutory and regulatory definition of government contractor at the time the
7 contribution was made. *See* MUR 6300 (Gen X Strategies); MUR 5666 (MZM); MUR
8 5645 (Highmark); MUR 4901 (Rust Environmental); and MUR 4297 (Ortho
9 Pharmaceutical). In the case of a parent company contributor, if it can demonstrate that it
10 is, in fact, a separate and distinct legal entity from its government contractor subsidiaries,
11 and that it had sufficient funds to make the contributions from non-subsidiary income,
12 then the prohibition on contributions by government contractors would not extend to the
13 parent company. *See* Advisory Opinion 2005-01 (Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians)
14 (the government contractor status of a tribal corporation, a distinct and separate legal
15 entity from the tribe, does not prohibit the tribe from making contributions to federal
16 candidates, political parties, and political committees as long as the tribe does not use
17 revenues from tribal corporation to make contributions), *citing* Advisory Opinion 1999-
18 32 (Tohono O'odham Nation) (the commercial activity of the Indian tribe's utility
19 authority as a government contractor treated as separate from the tribe and its political
20 activities).

21 Based on the available information, including affidavits from corporate officers, it
22 appears that Aleut Corporation, Bering Straits Native Corporation, Bristol Bay Native
23 Corporation, Calista Corporation, Chugach Alaska Corporation, Cook Inlet Region, Inc.,

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1 Doyon, Ltd., Koniag, Inc., and Sealaska Corporation have sufficiently demonstrated that
2 as parent companies without contracts with the federal government, they are not
3 government contractors, and therefore their contributions to AST were permissible.
4 Although they each have subsidiaries that hold federal contracts, those subsidiaries are
5 separate and distinct legal entities from them, and the parent companies have sufficiently
6 demonstrated that they made their contributions to AST with revenue from sources other
7 than the federal-contract-holding subsidiaries. Therefore, they are not government
8 contractors as defined by the Act and the Commission's regulations. 2 U.S.C. § 441c;
9 11 C.F.R. § 115.1; *see* AO 2005-01 (Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians) *citing* AO
10 1999-32 (Tohono O'odham Nation). Further, the parent company ANC's contributions
11 to AST do not violate the Act's prohibition on corporate contributions in connection with
12 federal elections, 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a), because the contributions to AST, an independent-
13 expenditure-only political action committee, were made for the purpose of making
14 independent expenditures. *See Citizens United*, 130 S. Ct. at 913; AO 2010-11
15 (Commonsense Ten) at 3.¹

16 Therefore, there is no reason to believe that Aleut Corporation, Bering Straits
17 Native Corporation, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Calista Corporation, Chugach
18 Alaska Corporation, Cook Inlet Region, Inc., Doyon, Ltd., Koniag, Inc., and Sealaska
19 Corporation violated 2 U.S.C. § 441c(a)(1).

³ As a final note, it appears that Koniag and Sealaska's receipt of the public grants do not make them government contractors. The public grants that Koniag and Sealaska receive from the federal government, *see* footnote 1, *supra*, appear to be outside of the definition of a federal contract as set forth by the Act and the Commission's regulations. 11 C.F.R. § 115.1(c); *see* AO 1993-12 (Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians) (federal grant for public service activity, which does not directly benefit the U.S. Government, is not a "contract" as defined by 11 C.F.R. § 115.1; note that the part of the opinion's analysis concerning procurement contracts between tribal enterprises and the federal government is superseded by AO 1999-32 (Tohono O'odham Nation)).