

**Senate  
Accountability  
Watch**

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RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION

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OFFICE OF GENERAL  
COUNSEL

**SENSITIVE**

December 16, 2010

Christopher Hughey, Esq.  
General Counsel's Office  
999 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20463

**Re: Complaint Against Edward John ("Eddie") Izzard;  
Obama For America;  
Obama Victory Fund;  
Hillary Clinton For President;  
Re-Elect Congressman Kucinich Committee;  
Democratic National Committee;  
Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee;  
Midwest Values PAC;  
Colorado Democratic Party**

Dear Mr. Hughey,

This complaint is respectfully submitted pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(1) for violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act by Edward John ("Eddie") Izzard, Obama For America, Obama Victory Fund, Hillary Clinton For President, Re-Elect Congressman Kucinich Committee, Democratic National Committee, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, Midwest Values PAC, and the Colorado Democratic Party.

Mr. Izzard, a well-known actor and comedian, is a foreign national, as that term is used at 2 U.S.C. § 441e, and he contributed a total of \$106,400 to the aforementioned committees, in violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441e. The aforementioned committees accepted Mr. Izzard's contributions, also in violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441e. If any of the aforementioned committees solicited a contribution from Mr. Izzard, that solicitation was a violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441e.

It appears that Mr. Izzard also provided false address information when he made these contributions. Mr. Izzard's address shown on most FEC reports – 2029 Century Park East, Suite

1060, Los Angeles, California 90067 – appears to be the law office of Scott W. Alderton, Esq. Mr. Izzard's address is also listed as 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1050, Los Angeles, California 90067, which is the address of Licker & Ozurovich, CPAs, an accounting and business management firm. The use of these two bogus addresses strongly suggests that Mr. Izzard's violations were knowing and willful.

### Mr. Izzard's Nationality

According to this own website, [www.eddieizzard.com](http://www.eddieizzard.com), Mr. Izzard "was born in February '62 in South Yemen" which "was a British colony at the time."<sup>1</sup> He subsequently lived in North Ireland, South Wales, and England, among other places. He described himself as "British-European" in 2005.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Izzard has worked in the United States, but is not known to be "lawfully-admitted for permanent residence."

Mr. Izzard has spoken repeatedly about running for office in Europe. For example, a recent piece in *The Telegraph* reported "His next run will be for Parliament – either Westminster or Brussels."<sup>3</sup> Mr. Izzard made similar comments during a *Newsweek* interview.<sup>4</sup> His stated intention to reside outside of the United States in the future makes him ineligible for a "green card."<sup>5</sup>

### Illegal Foreign National Contributions

Mr. Izzard's federal contribution history appears below.

Date	Contribution	Amount	Frequency
October 6, 2008	Obama For America	\$2,300	2008 Pre-General
October 6, 2008	Re-Elect Congressman Kucinich Committee	\$2,300	2008 Pre-General
October 7, 2008	Hillary Clinton For President	\$2,300	2009 November Monthly
October 30, 2008	Obama Victory Fund	\$28,500	2008 Post-General
May 11, 2009	Democratic Senatorial	\$10,000	2009 June Monthly

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.eddieizzard.com/eddie/biography/view.php?Chapter=1>.

<sup>2</sup> See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eddie\\_Izzard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eddie_Izzard).

<sup>3</sup> See William Langley, "Eddie Izzard's long and kinky road to the top," *The Telegraph* (Sept. 19, 2009) available at <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/theatre/comedy/620997/Eddie-Izzards-long-and-kinky-road-to-the-top.html>.

<sup>4</sup> See Brian Braiker, "Every Gig Is a Rehearsal," *Newsweek* (April 18, 2008) available at <http://www.newsweek.com/2008/04/17/every-gig-is-a-rehearsal.html>.

<sup>5</sup> See generally U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services at <http://www.uscis.gov/portals/site/uscis/resumeitem.cb1d4c2a3e5b9ac89243c6a7543f6d1a/?vgnnextoid=0c353a4107083210VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=0c353a4107083210VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD>.

	<b>Campaign Committee</b>		
May 18, 2009	Democratic National Committee	\$1,000	2009 June Monthly
February 24, 2010	Midwest Values PAC	\$5,000	2010 March Monthly
August 6, 2010	Democratic National Committee	\$30,400	2010 September Monthly
September 30, 2010	Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee	\$22,000	2010 October Monthly
October 29, 2010	Colorado Democratic Party	\$2,600	2010 Post-General
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$106,400</b>	

### **Shocking Hypocrisy From Those Receiving Mr. Izzard's Contributions**

Recipients of Mr. Izzard's contributions recently engaged in a hyperbolic media offensive, desperately peddling false charges that foreign money was being used in the 2010 elections to aid Republican candidates. This smear campaign reached the highest levels on October 8, 2010, when "President Barack Obama blasted opposition fund-raisers at a campaign rally Thursday, charging that they solicited foreign donations and pumped the millions of dollars they received into congressional races."<sup>6</sup> According to President Obama, "groups that receive foreign money are spending huge sums to influence American elections."<sup>7</sup>

Three days earlier, on October 5, 2010, Senator Al Franken, founder of the Midwest Values PAC (which received \$5,000 from Mr. Izzard), wrote to the FEC "to ask that you investigate these claims, [and] enforce existing laws and regulations prohibiting foreign spending in American elections...."<sup>8</sup>

On October 10, 2010, the Democratic National Committee (which received \$31,400 from Mr. Izzard) placed an advertisement accusing certain groups perceived to be aligned with Republicans of "taking secret foreign money to influence our elections."<sup>9</sup>

While President Obama, Senator Franken, and the Democratic National Committee never provided any actual evidence substantiating their fabricated allegations (even their usual allies in

<sup>6</sup> Jonathan Weisman, "Obama Charges That Groups Put Foreign Money Into Campaigns," *Wall Street Journal* (October 8, 2010) available at <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704011904575538491643955092.html?mod=diemITP>.

<sup>7</sup> Id.

<sup>8</sup> See Letter of Senator Al Franken to Matthew S. Petersen, Chairman, Federal Election Commission, dated October 5, 2010.

<sup>9</sup> See Sam Stein, "DNC Makes Major Ad Buy Accusing Chamber of Potentially 'Stealing' Election," *Huffington Post* (Oct. 10, 2010) available at [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/10/10/dnc-makes-major-ad-buy-ac\\_n\\_757117.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/10/10/dnc-makes-major-ad-buy-ac_n_757117.html).

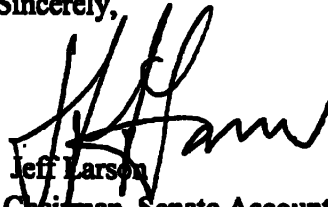
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the media agree on that point),<sup>10</sup> there is no question that the use of foreign money to influence U.S. elections is a serious matter. For that reason, we urge the Commission to investigate the named Respondents and impose all available penalties for the following violations:

- 1) Knowing and willful violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441e by Edward John Izzard, for unlawfully contributing \$106,400 to federal political committees;
- 2) Violations of 2 U.S.C. § 441e by the named Respondent committees for accepting contributions from a foreign national;
- 3) Violations of 2 U.S.C. § 441e by any of the named Respondent committees that solicited a contribution from Mr. Izzard;

Please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions 651-395-6267.

Sincerely,



Jeff Larson  
Chairman, Senate Accountability Watch


<sup>10</sup> See, e.g., Eric Lichtblau, "Topic of Foreign Money in U.S. Races Hits Hustings, *New York Times* (Oct. 8, 2010) available at [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/09/us/politics/09donate.html?\\_r=2/](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/09/us/politics/09donate.html?_r=2/) ("White House officials acknowledged Friday that they had no specific evidence to indicate that the chamber had used money from foreign entities to finance political attack ads.").

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### Verification

The complainant listed below hereby verifies that the statements made in the attached Complaint are, upon information and belief, true.

Sworn to pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

  
Complainant Jeff Larson

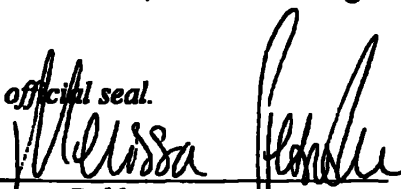
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2010.

State of Minnesota

County of Washington )  
 )SS:

On this, the 16 day of December, 2010, before me a notary public, the undersigned officer, personally appeared Jeff Larson; known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein contained.

In witness hereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

  
Notary Public

