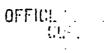
Brian M. Heberlig 202 429 8134 bheberlig@steptoe.com

1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20036-1795 202 429 3000 main www.steptoe.com

2014 JAN -2 TOND: 13



## December 20, 2013

Mr. Leonard Evans Attorney, Enforcement Division Office of the General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street NW Washington, DC 20463

**Re: MUR 6766** 

Dear Mr. Evans:

This letter is on behalf of Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. and is in response to Commissioner Ellen L. Weintraub's letter of December 12, 2013 regarding MUR 6766. Commissioner Weintraub's letter stated that on December 3, 2013 the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") found reason to believe that Mr. Jackson and his campaign committee violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(b), 439a, and 441b as well as Commission regulations by diverting committee funds for personal uses, accepting corporate contributions, and making false or misleading disclosures to the Commission.

Pursuant to a plea agreement with the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, Mr. Jackson pleaded guilty and was convicted of a criminal offense covering the bulk of the conduct described in Ms. Weintraub's letter and in the Commission's Factual and Legal Analysis. On August 14, 2013, Mr. Jackson was sentenced to thirty months incarceration by Judge Amy Berman Jackson of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Mr. Jackson is currently incarcerated in a federal corrections facility and will not be released until approximately December 31, 2015.

Judge Berman Jackson also ordered Mr. Jackson to forfeit to the United States Treasury \$750,000 in funds that he improperly obtained from his campaign committee. He has begun the process of doing so by making a substantial payment on October 25, 2013 and has entered into an agreement with the United States Attorney's Office whereby the remainder of the money judgment will be satisfied by June 1, 2014.

At sentencing, Judge Berman Jackson declined to order that Mr. Jackson pay restitution to his campaign committee or to appoint a monitor to wind down the committee. The Court found that the committee is not a going concern and that Mr. Jackson's forfeiture of the

BRUSSELS

Mr. Leonard Evans December 20, 2013 Page 2



campaign funds was a sufficient resolution of the matter. The Court stated "The committee no longer exists, and it has no ongoing function to serve if it did exist. Basically, what [the United States Attorney is] asking me to do is to create a new campaign committee, from scratch, for the sole purpose of unwinding itself."

While we do not represent the Jesse Jackson Jr. for Congress campaign committee, it is our understanding that the committee is defunct, that it has no staff, and that the campaign's treasurer has resigned. Because of these facts and Mr. Jackson's incarceration, it is not feasible to respond to the FEC's findings nor is it possible to amend past reports to correct any inaccuracies. Even it were possible to do so, there are no resources to undertake such an effort.

Mr. Jackson has been sufficiently punished for his violations of the law by criminal proceedings that resulted in a substantial term of imprisonment and a large money judgment. The continuation of any civil proceedings against him can serve no legitimate purpose. Therefore, we respectfully request that the Commission decline to pursue further this matter against Mr. Jackson.

Sincerely,

Becan M. Hohubry / WED

Brian M. Heberlig Counsel for Jesse L. Jackson, Jr.