

NOV 02 2016

Marc E. Elias, Esq. Perkins Coie, LLP 700 13th Street, NW Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005

RE: MURs 7169, 7170, 7171, 7172, 7173, 7174, 7175, 7176, 7177, 7178, and 7179 Hillary for America and Jose H. Villarreal, as treasurer

Dear Mr. Elias:

The Federal Election Commission received several complaints that indicate your clients, Hillary for America and Jose H. Villarreal, in his official capacity as treasurer, may have violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"). Copies of the complaints are enclosed. We have numbered these matters MURs 7169, 7170, 7171, 7172, 7173, 7174, 7175, 7176, 7177, 7178, and 7179. Please refer to these numbers in all future correspondence.

The Act affords you the opportunity to demonstrate in writing that no action should be taken against your clients, Hillary for America and Jose H. Villarreal, in his official capacity as treasurer, in these matters. If you wish to file a response, you may submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission's consideration of these matters. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath by persons with relevant knowledge. Any response, which should be addressed to the General Counsel's Office, must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

These matters will remain confidential in accordance with 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(4)(B) and § 30109(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matters to be made public. Please be advised that, although the Commission cannot disclose information regarding an investigation to the public, it may share information on a confidential basis with other law enforcement agencies.¹

Please note that you have a legal obligation to preserve all documents, records and materials relating to the subject matter of the complaints until such time as you are notified that the Commission has closed its files in these matters. See 18 U.S.C. § 1519.

The Commission has the statutory authority to refer knowing and willful violations of the Act to the Department of Justice for potential criminal prosecution, 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(5)(C), and to report information regarding violations of law not within its jurisdiction to appropriate law enforcement authorities. *Id.* § 30107(a)(9).

Any correspondence sent to the Commission, such as a response, must be addressed to one of the following (note, if submitting via email this Office will provide an electronic receipt by email):

<u>Mail</u>

OR

<u>Email</u>

Federal Election Commission Office of Complaints Examination CELA@fec.gov

and Legal Administration

Attn: Jeff Jordan, Assistant General Counsel

999 E Street, NW

Washington, DC 20463

If you have any questions, please contact me (202) 694-1650 or toll free at 1-800-424-9530. For your information, we have enclosed a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling complaints.

Jeff S. Jordan

Assistant General Counsel Complaints Examination &

Legal Administration