

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20463

MEMORANDUM August 7, 2019

3 TO: The Commission 4

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9 Acting Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

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20 SUBJECT: MUR 7191 (Rand Paul, et al.)

RE: Circulation of Discovery Documents

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On April 25, 2019, the Commission found reason to believe that Senator Rand Paul and Freedom for All Americans (f/k/a Rand Paul for President, Inc.) accepted excessive in-kind contributions resulting from the payment of certain pre-candidacy expenses by Reinventing a New Direction Political Action Committee and Kevin Broghamer in his official capacity as

28 treasurer ("RAND PAC") under 11 C.F.R. § 110.2(*l*), in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30116(f). ¹

- 29 Correspondingly, the Commission found reason to believe that RAND PAC violated 52 U.S.C.
- § 30116(a) by making excessive contributions, and that RAND PAC and Freedom for All 30
- 31 Americans failed to properly disclose the in-kind contributions at issue, in violation of 52 U.S.C.
- § 30104(b).² In addition, the Commission authorized the use of compulsory process for the 32
- 33 investigation.³

Certification ¶ 4(b), MUR 7191 (Rand Paul, et al.).

² *Id.* \P 4(c)-(d).

Id. ¶ 4(f). The Commission also found reason to believe that Freedom for All Americans violated 52 U.S.C. § 30116(f) and 11 C.F.R. § 102.9(e)(3) by failing to timely remedy general election contributions, but those findings are not subject to the investigation.

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On May 17, 2019, we sent notification of the Commission's reason to believe findings to Respondents and also provided the Factual and Legal Analysis. We did not receive a response from Senator Paul, who also did not respond to the initial complaint in this matter. We received a joint response, on June 24, 2019, from Freedom for All Americans and RAND PAC. The joint response raises legal and factual arguments as to why the Commission erred in its Factual and Legal Analysis. In addition, it requests that the Commission dismiss the matter. Attached to the joint response is an affidavit from Douglass Stafford, RAND PAC's Executive Director. The seven-paragraph affidavit provides only limited information about the pre-candidacy expenses at issue, and does not include facts sufficient to conclude the investigation.

Attached for the Commission's approval on a 48-hour no objection basis are a Subpoena to Produce Documents and Order to Submit Written Answers directed to Freedom for All Americans and RAND PAC, a Deposition Subpoena directed to Mr. Stafford, on behalf of RAND PAC, and a Subpoena to Produce Documents and Order to Submit Written Answers directed to Senator Paul. The questions and document requests in the subpoenas seek additional information regarding the establishment and staffing of offices and the commission of polling and survey research by RAND PAC, and closely track the language of 11 C.F.R. § 110.2(*l*), which addresses the types of pre-candidacy expenses incurred by a leadership PAC which can, in certain situations, be converted to in-kind contributions. By determining each location where RAND PAC had offices, the activities undertaken by those offices, and Senator Paul's involvement with respect to the goods or services at issue, as well as the circumstances under which RAND PAC purchased polling and survey research, we will be able to determine which, if any, of the expenses constituted an in-kind contribution. The Deposition Subpoena seeks additional information from Mr. Stafford as his affidavit indicates that he has additional relevant information concerning the activities and staffing of RAND PAC that could assist in the investigation.

We recommend using compulsory process at this time because the allegations concern activity that took place in 2013, 2014, and 2015 and the statute of limitations has already begun to run in this matter. Further, as discussed above, it does not appear that all Respondents will act cooperatively. Accordingly, we request that the Commission approve the attached subpoenas on a 48-hour no objection basis.