



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
AND ELECTRONIC MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 1, 2021

Ronald A. Fein
Free Speech for People
1340 Centre Street, #209
Newton, MA 02459
rfein@freespeechforpeople.org

Anne Weismann
Campaign for Accountability
1201 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20036
aweismann@campaignforaccountability.org

RE: MUR 7207

Dear Mr. Fein and Ms. Weismann:

This is in reference to the complaint you filed with the Federal Election Commission on December 19, 2016, and its supplements, filed on May 4 and June 5, 2017, concerning Russian interference in the 2016 election.

On August 18, 2021, we wrote to inform you that (1) on April 22, 2021, the Commission found that there was reason to believe that H. Russell Taub violated 52 U.S.C. § 30121(a), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, and 11 C.F.R. § 110.20(g) of the Commission regulations by knowingly soliciting, accepting, or receiving a prohibited in-kind foreign national contribution; (2) on August 10, 2021, a conciliation agreement signed by H. Russell Taub was accepted by the Commission; (3) on April 22, 2021, the Commission considered the allegations raised in your complaint but was equally divided on whether to find reason to believe that the Russian Federation violated 52 U.S.C. § 30121(a)(1)(C) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.20(f) by making prohibited foreign national expenditures and independent expenditures in connection with the influence campaign targeting the 2016 presidential election; that the Russian Federation violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(c) and 11 C.F.R. § 109.10(b) by failing to report independent expenditures in connection with the influence campaign; that Donald J. Trump and Make America Great Again PAC (f/k/a Donald J. Trump for President, Inc.) and Bradley T. Crate in his official capacity as treasurer (the "Trump Committee") violated 52 U.S.C. § 30121(a)(2) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.20(g) by knowingly soliciting, accepting or receiving an in-kind contribution from the Russian Federation in connection with Trump's press conference

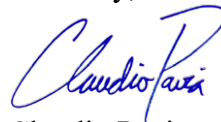
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statement; that the Russian Federation violated 52 U.S.C. § 30121(a)(1)(A) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.20(b) by making a prohibited in-kind contribution to the Trump Committee by expending resources to hack Hillary Clinton-related servers in response to Trump's press conference statement; and that the Trump Committee violated 52 U.S.C. § 30121(a)(2) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.20(g) by knowingly soliciting a prohibited in-kind contribution from WikiLeaks; (4) on April 22, 2021, the Commission voted to dismiss the Russian Federation as a matter of prosecutorial discretion; and (5) on August 10, 2021, the Commission closed its file in this matter.

This letter is to inform you that, on September 28, 2021, the Commission voted to reopen the matter for further consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicholas Bamman, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1628 or nbamman@fec.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Claudio Pavia". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "C" and "P".

Claudio Pavia
Acting Assistant General Counsel