#### REPORTS ANALYSIS DIVISION REFERRAL

#### TO

## OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

DATE:

June 6, 2017

ANALYST:

Sarah Juris

I. COMMITTEE:

Reform America Fund

C00581934

Lorri Pickens, Treasurer N4298 12 Corners Rd. Black Creek, WI 54106

II. RELEVANT STATUTE:

52 U.S.C § 30104(g)(1) 11 CFR § 104.4(c)

### III. BACKGROUND:

# Failure to Provide Supporting Schedules (Failure to File 24-Hour Reports)

Reform America Fund ("the Committee") failed to file two (2) 24-Hour Reports totaling \$1,044,256.46 to support two (2) independent expenditures disclosed on the 2016 30 Day Post-General Report, made after the 20<sup>th</sup> day, but more than 24 hours before the 2016 General Election (Attachment 2).

On December 7, 2016, the Committee filed the 2016 30 Day Post-General Report, covering the period from October 20, 2016 through November 28, 2016, which included a Schedule E (Itemized Independent Expenditures) disclosing twenty-two (22) independent expenditures totaling \$2,553,266.92 made in opposition to two (2) federal candidates. The Committee failed to file two (2) 24-Hour Reports to support two (2) independent expenditures totaling \$1,044,256.46 for the 2016 General Election (Image 201612079037718555-65).

On March 5, 2017, a Request for Additional Information (RFAI) was sent to the Committee referencing the 2016 30 Day Post-General Report. Among other items, the RFAI noted that the Committee may have failed to file one or more of the required 24-Hour Reports for independent expenditures disclosed on the report. A chart was included with the RFAI which identified two (2) independent expenditures, totaling

\$1,044,256.46, for which 24-Hour Reports had not been filed (Image 201703050300081876-78).

On April 6, 2017, Lorri Pickens, the Committee's Treasurer, called the Reports Analysis Division (RAD) Analyst regarding the RFAI referencing the 2016 30 Day Post-General Report. Ms. Pickens asked how to resolve the issue regarding the 24-Hour Reports that had not been filed. The RAD Analyst recommended that she verify that all relevant reports had been filed and advised her that any additional clarification could be provided on the public record (Attachment 3).

On April 10, 2017, the Committee filed an Amended 2016 30 Day Post-General Report. The amended report disclosed no changes in independent expenditure activity from the original report (Image 201704109052053105-15).

On April 19, 2017, the RAD Analyst left a voicemail for Ms. Pickens, asking that she return the call.

Later that day, Ms. Pickens returned the RAD Analyst's call. The RAD Analyst explained that the Committee could be referred for potential further action by the Commission due to the Committee's failure to file 24-Hour Reports for independent expenditures disclosed on the 2016 30 Day Post-General Report. Ms. Pickens stated that she believed a response had been provided by a compliance consultant to address the issue. The RAD Analyst noted that an Amended 2016 30 Day Post-General Report, received April 10, 2017, had been filed, but did not address the missing 24-Hour Reports. The RAD Analyst further explained that not much could be done to remedy the missing reports because they had not been filed in a timely manner. The RAD Analyst advised that an additional amendment or Miscellaneous Electronic Submission ("FEC Form 99") could be filed to provide further clarification about the missing 24-Hour Reports on the public record. Ms. Pickens said she understood and that she would look into filing a statement (Attachment 3).

On April 20, 2017, Paul Kilgore, the Committee's compliance consultant, called to follow-up on the RAD Analyst's previous conversation with Ms. Pickens. He said that memo text should have been attached to the Amended 2016 30 Day Post-General Report, received April 10, 2017, to explain the missing 24-Hour Reports referenced in the RFAI, but was inadvertently omitted. Mr. Kilgore stated that an FEC Form 99 would be filed to provide further clarification (Attachment 3).

On April 21, 2017, the Committee filed an FEC Form 99 in response to the RFAI referencing the 2016 30 Day Post-General Report, which stated:

"When the issue regarding the 24 hour report was brought to our attention we began an internal review. We were able to confirm dozens of 24 hour reports containing over six million dollars in expenditures. The committee clearly had a system in place to report these expenditures in a timely manner, to be transparent and make the public record complete. It appears the report in question is an exception. The committee plan to redouble its

efforts in this area to ensure this doesn't happen again" (Image 201704219052405999).

To date, no further communications have been received from the Committee regarding this matter.

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Treasurer Name: PICKENS, LORRI Address: N4298 12 CORNERS RD, BLACK CREEK, WI 54106-8100

Cmte. Type: O (INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE-ONLY COMMITTEE) Cmte. Designation: U (UNAUTHORIZED). Filling Frequency: QUARTERLY FILER.

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Reform America Fund (C00581934)
2016 30 Day Post-General Report, received December 7, 2016

# 24-Hour Reports Not Filed

Name of Payee	Date of Dissemination (Schedule E)	Expenditure Amount	Candidate Supported/Opposed	Election
Nonbox	10/31/2016	<b>\$522,128.23</b> 24-Hour Report Required	Clinton, Hillary Rodham	2016 General
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Nonbox	10/31/2016	\$522,128.23 24-Hour Report Required	Feingold, Russ	2016 General
	Total	\$1,044,256.46		