

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

## NOV 1 7 2017

Progressive Priorities PAC Michelle Sotelo, Treasurer 3300 N Interstate 35, Suite 700 Austin, TX 78722

## RE: AR 17-15R

Dear Ms. Sotelo:

The Federal Election Commission ("Commission") has ascertained information in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities indicating that Progressive Priorities PAC and you, in your official capacity as treasurer ("Committee"), may have violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"). The Committee has been referred by the Commission to the Office of General Counsel for possible enforcement action under 52 U.S.C. § 30109.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, the Committee has been referred for the following issues that may be in violation of the Act and Commission regulations:

- 1. 2016 30 Day Post-General Report: The Committee failed to timely file the required Post-General Report.
- 2. 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter: Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) disclosed receipts of \$30,995.00 from a credit card processing company. However, the Committee failed to clarify whether this amount includes any receipts aggregating greater than \$200.00 from an individual in the calendar year.
- 3. 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Report: Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) failed to disclose adequate identification for 228 of 228 of the contributions from individuals that require itemization.
- 4. 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Report: Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) failed to disclose adequate identification for 104 of 104 of the contributions from individuals that require itemization.
- 5. 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Report: Schedule B supporting Line 29 failed to disclose the address and purpose for thirty-nine (39) disbursements totaling \$211,621.11.
- 6. 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Report: Schedule B supporting Line 29 failed to disclose the address for twenty-nine (29) disbursements totaling \$161,301.00.

We have numbered this referral AR 17-15R.

The Act affords you the opportunity to demonstrate in writing that no action should be taken against Progressive Priorities PAC and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, in this matter. 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 this matter. Where appropriate,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Notification of this referral is being provided to you pursuant to the Commission's Agency Procedure for Notice to Respondents in Non-Complaint Generated Matters, as published in the Federal Register on August 4, 2009 (74 Fed. Reg. 38,617).

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statements should be submitted under oath by persons with relevant knowledge. Your 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.

This matter 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 matter 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.<sup>2</sup>

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

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):

Mail Federal Election Commission Office of Complaints Examination and Legal Administration Attn: Christal Dennis, Paralegal 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20463 OR <u>Email</u> CELA@fec.gov

If you have any questions, please contact Christal Dennis at (202) 694-1650 or toll free at 1-800-424-9530. For your information, we have enclosed a brief description of the Commission's preliminary procedures for processing possible violations discovered by the Commission.

Sincerely,

Jeff S. Jordan / AU

Jeff S. Jordan Assistant General Counsel Complaints Examination & Legal Administration

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 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).