

SANDLER REIFF

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January 5, 2018

Via E-Mail

Jeff S. Jordan, Esq.
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

Re: AR 17-08R

Dear Mr. Jordan:

The undersigned serves as counsel to the Kansas Democratic Party (“KSDP”) and Bill Hutton, in his official capacity as Treasurer. I am writing in response to the Commission’s letter of November 17, 2017 in connection with the above-referenced referral.

For the reasons set forth below, the DPNM respectfully requests that OGC recommend that no further action be taken in this matter or, in the alternative, that this matter be referred to the Alternative Dispute Resolution Division for further proceedings.

This matter relates to an apparent pre-audit referral for reporting issues related to the KSDP’s reports for the 2015 and 2016 calendar years. A review of the reporting errors reveal several fixable errors that the KSDP is working with an outside consultant to fix and file amended reports in the next few weeks. In addition, the KSDP notes that the referral includes one OGC referable issue related to a failure to provide sufficient memo entries to support transfers from joint fundraising committees. The KSDP anticipates that its comprehensive amendments will address most of the issues revealed in the Commission’s report and will certainly correct issues related to the shortfall of memo entries related to joint fundraising.

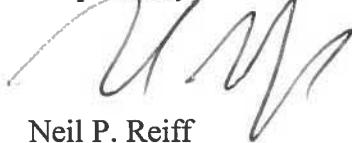
The KSDP acknowledges that there have been reporting issues in the past, most of which was caused by an outside consultant who had been handling the KSDP’s reports for several years. Unbeknownst to the KSDP, the consultant, who had been responsible

for preparation of reports and all correspondence with the Commission, had not been responding to ordinary requests for additional information from the Commission. The consultant is no longer associated with the KSDP and the committee has taken steps to ensure that its compliance operation is responsive to Commission inquiries.

Thus, once the KSDP provide comprehensive amendments and addresses the OGC referable matter, the KSDP believes that this matter is more appropriate for diversion to its ADR program in accordance with the normal practice for audit eligible committees who are not ultimately the subject of an audit for that election cycle.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at (202) 479-1111.

Respectfully submitted,



Neil P. Reiff
Counsel for the Kansas Democratic
Party, and Bill Hutton, in his official
capacity as Treasurer