

6 February 2024

Federal Election Commission
Office of Complaints Examination
& Legal Administration
Attn: Christal Dennis, Paralegal
1050 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

RE: MUR 8198

Ms. Brown:

I would like to demonstrate herein that no action should be taken against the Oklahoma Leadership Council and myself as treasurer in the above referenced complaint.

The Oklahoma Leadership Council and myself as treasurer have not used any "straw" donors to receive or contrive any contributions. The contributions listed in the paragraph 6 of the complaint were the result of an unintended mistake. Our filing agent at Redcurve, Danny Peppe, clicked his mouse on a five hundred dollar donation and unwittingly dragged it down changing the true donations following the five hundred dollar donation into five hundred dollar donations themselves and enumerating them in the "cents" column of the donation. The narrative of Mr. Peppe is enclosed with this letter. These amounts that were transformed were then listed in transit and not discovered until the following month's bank data. Also enclosed herein are excel prints of worksheets for the FEC report from Mr. Peppe showing how the original amounts were changed.

The table shown in paragraph 6 of the complaint shows a list of contributors for the purported five hundred dollar donations. The Oklahoma Leadership Council has the source documentation for all of these contributor's donations at the true and original amount that were changed to the five hundred dollar amount. All of these amounts were corrected in the amended report filed in January of this year.

OKLAHOMA REPUBLICAN PARTY 4031 N. LINCOLN BLVD OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105 (405) 528-3501 The speculation in complaint MUR 8198 about the contributions in question has no basis in fact and it is unfortunate that Mr. Vaden did not approach our office to discuss this. We are ready respond to any questions you may have on what we are presenting here or any further issues the commission may have. We sincerely regret our oversight did not catch the incorrect submitted amounts sooner and hope this information will suffice to put an end to this matter.

Sincerely,

John Elliott

Treasurer

Oklahoma Leadership Council

Oklahoma Republican Party

Enclosures: Email statement from Mr. Peppe

Two page illustration of error creation

From: Danny Peppe

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 1:45 PM

To: John Elliott

Subject: Re: Year End Amendment

Hi John,

Please see attached the original upload and the amended upload raw data. You can see the highlighted transactions where I dragged down the 500 number adding a penny to each one after that in error when I was trying to sum up the number of deposits in transit. We did not realize it until creating the next months report and that is when we filed with amended with the correct data in the amended excel.

Best

Danny V. Peppe **Accounting Manager Red Curve Solutions, LLC** Office: 617-303-6806

978-836-8360

dpeppe@redcurve.com

From: John Elliott < johnelliott@okgop.com> Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 2:32 PM To: Danny Peppe <dpeppe@redcurve.com>

Subject: FW: Year End Amendment

Attached copy of \$500.00 listing

Sent from Mail for Windows

From: John Elliott

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 1:29 PM

To: Danny Peppe (Red Curve) Subject: RE: Year End Amendment

Thank you Danny. The alleged complaint to the FEC offers the complainant's supposed explanation for the list of \$500.00 donations with "cents" ranging from 0.01 through 0.22. Please send an explanation of how the attached page included in the complaint was created so there will be no misunderstanding as to how it was created. Time is of the essence for us to get this matter resolved. I certainly appreciate your help with this.

2. 2

John Elliott Treasurer Oklahoma Republican Party