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NEWS FROM...

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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FEC SUMMARIZES MATCHING FUND ACTIVITY

WASHINGTON - APRIL 18 - Nearly $ 3/4 million in contributions submitted by Presidential candidates for matching funds has been rejected by the Federal Election Commission since the "primary payment period" began January 1, 1976, the Commission revealed today.

A status report prepared by the FEC's auditing division shows that out of a total of $13,388,991.28 submitted for matching funds by 14 eligible Presidential candidates, $770,750.40 has been rejected, mostly for "technical" reasons.

A total of $12,618,240.88 in primary matching payments has been certified by the Commission to date for the 14 candidates.

Approximately $2.5 million in contributions was rejected from the original submissions of the candidates; 2/3 of this amount ($1,706,234.60) was resubmitted by the candidates after corrections had been made or additional documentation obtained. This amount was subsequently approved and certified by the FEC for payment.

The Commission lost its power to certify matching funds on March 23, when the Supreme Court opinion in Buckley v. Valeo went into effect. The Court ruled that since all the FEC Commissioners had not been appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, they could not exercise executive functions, including public financing.

Pending Congressional action reconstituting the Commission, the FEC staff has continued to receive Presidential candidate matching fund and major political party convention fund requests. Staff reviews are being conducted so that whenever the Commission is reconstituted, it will then be able to take up pending requests for eligibility and certification.

Technical reasons for rejection of contributions submitted for matching funds include:

1. check not signed by account holder;
2. check is unsigned, or does not include amount of contribution;
3. differences between the amount of contributions listed and the amounts actually shown on checks;
4. check or other written documentation not submitted to support a listed contribution;
5. amount listed by candidate as matchable is more than the amount shown on checks, or on other supporting documentation;
6. contributor's address missing or incomplete on candidate's list; and
7. contribution listed more than once in same submission.

Contributions rejected for these reasons may be "resubmitted" to the Commission by the candidate once corrections have been made or additional information has been obtained.

Contributions which are determined to be "unmatchable", such as contributions which represent other than personal funds, or contributions which have been previously matched, may not be resubmitted, however.

The following table summarizes matching fund activity to date:

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SUMMARY OF MATCHING FUND ACTIVITY

	No. of Submissions	Number of Contributions Submitted	Average Amount Submitted	Total Amount Submitted	% of Total Requests Matched	Total Amount Certified	Amounts Originally Rejected	% of Requests Matched Prior To Resubmission of Rejected Amt.	Amounts Resubmitted	Final Amount Rejected
Bayh	9	6,471	70.31	$454,969.30	96.4%	$438,506.35	$33,151.45	92.7%	$16,688.50	$16,462.95
Bentsen	3[1/]	6,767[3/]	84.98	575,052,94[2/]	88.9%	511,022.61	64,030.33	88.9%	- 0 -	64,030.33
Carter	10	40,706	30.22	1,229,957.95	87.7%	1,078,467.75	197,252.98	84.0%	45,762.78	151,490.20
Church	2	3,068	75.82	232,612.78	99.5%	231,380.78	1,232.00	99.5%	- 0 -	1,232.00
Ford	10	35,077	58.34	2,046,371.17	95.4%	1,952,615.68	424,749.25[5/]	79.2%	330,993.76[5/]	93,755.49
Harris	8	35,770	14.41	515,608.45	95.7%	493,278.50	145,134.99[5/]	71.9%	122,805.04[5/]	22,329.95
Jackson	4	44,500	36.23	1,612,393.27	96.7%	1,559,637.18	597,270.88[5/]	64.2%	524,514.79[5/]	52,756.09
McCormack	2	9,247	19.22	177,717.18	95.1%	169,043.90	17,587.70	90.1%	8,914.42	8,673.28
Reagan	8	85,521	20.86	1,784,337.32	94.1%	1,679,124.19	105,213.13	94.1%	- 0 -	105,213.13
Sanford	3	1,960	126.07	247,100.32	99.7%	246,388.32	712.00	99.7%	- 0 -	712.00
Shriver	5	2,506	108.47	271,817.19	97.3%	264,582.74	11,885.45	95.6%	4,651.00	7,234.45
Shapp	7	4,157	68.52	284,824.10	97.6%	278,010.60	10,097.50	96.5%	3,284.00	6,813.50
Udall	9	46,560	22.77	1,060,403.72	87.8%	930,986.25	155,571.47	85.3%	26,154.00	129,417.47
Wallace	3	135,766[4/]	21.33	2,895,825.59	96.2%	2,785,196.03	733,095.87	74.7%	622,466.31[5/]	110,629.56
SUBTOTAL		458,076	29.23	13,388,991.28		12,618,240.88	2,476,985.00		1,706,234.60	770,750.40
RNC				750,000.00		750,000.00	- 0 -		- 0 -	- 0 -
DNC				860,000.00		860,000.00	- 0 -		- 0 -	- 0 -
SUBTOTAL				1,610,000.00		1,610,000.00	- 0 -		- 0 -	- 0 -
TOTAL				14,998,991.28		14,228,240.88	2,476,985.00		1,706,234.60	770,750.40

1/, 2/, 3/ Mr. Bentsen submitted a fourth request which was withdrawn before payment. This submission requested $25,945.50 and contained 612 contributions.

4/ In all cases but the Wallace submissions the column entitled No. of Contributions is a count of contributions and not contributors. In the Wallace submission, the number of contributions is not available.

5/ These figures include the amount of submissions rejected in whole based on the results of a sample. These were resubmitted and paid. The submissions involved are as follows:

Candidate	Sub. No.	Amount
Ford	VI	$307,293.76
Harris	II	111,226.70
Jackson	II	303,788.01
Wallace	II	264,658.31
	III	357,808.00
		1,344,744.78

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