



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MAR 11 2015

Jeffrey Epstein
6100 Red Hook Quarter Apt B3
St. Thomas, VI 00802

RE: MUR 6921

Dear Mr. Epstein:

The Federal Election Commission received a complaint that indicates you may have violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 6921. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

Under the Act you have the opportunity to demonstrate in writing that no action should be taken against you in this matter. Please submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath. 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. If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter, please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission. Please note that you have a legal obligation to preserve all documents, records and materials relating to the subject matter of the complaint until such time as you are notified that the Commission has closed its file in this matter. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 1519.

EFTA01080480

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

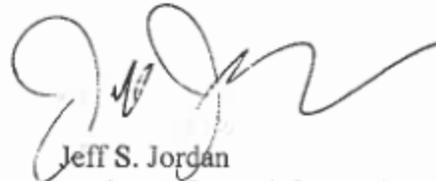
Federal Election Commission
Office of Complaints Examination
and Legal Administration
Attn: Kim Collins, Paralegal
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20436

Email

[REDACTED]

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Collins at [REDACTED] or toll free at 1-[REDACTED]. For your information, we have enclosed a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling complaints.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures:

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

Office of General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street NW
Washington DC 20463

2015 MAR -2 PM 2: 35

OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

To whom it may concern:

I write to alert you to a potential violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act and Commission regulations.

In the 2014 Election Cycle, contributions to candidates by persons other than multicandidate political committees were limited to \$2,600 per election. 11 CFR §110.1.

Political committees are considered affiliated and share a single contribution limit where the committees are "established, financed, maintained or controlled by ... the same person or group of persons." 11 CFR §110.3(a)(2).

Based on information and belief, the following individuals and committees exceeded the contribution limit applicable to affiliated committees, or circumvented contribution limits in a scheme that used non-connected committees as straw donors to make aggregate contributions in excess of legal limits:

1. [REDACTED] H4VA08331), in her capacity as a candidate ([REDACTED]);
2. The Committee to Elect [REDACTED] (C00562157) ("Campaign Committee");
3. Coalition of Independent Voices in Congress (CIVIC) (C00566026) ("CIVIC"), a non-connected committee, and its treasurer, [REDACTED] Beck;
4. Eagles Party PAC (C00557017), a non-connected committee; and its [REDACTED];
5. Richard Kramer of [REDACTED] "Kramer", a contributor to both Campaign Committee and Eagles Party PAC; and
6. Jeffrey Epstein of 6100 Red Hook Quarter Apt B3, St. Thomas, VI 00802 ("Epstein"); a contributor to Campaign Committee, CIVIC, and Eagles Party PAC.

Statements of fact are supported by the reports filed by Campaign Committee, CIVIC, and Eagles Party PAC in 2014.

Affiliated Committees

CIVIC and Eagles Party PAC appear to be affiliated [REDACTED] and an associate, Ginger Vuich, serve (or in Vuich's case, served) as agents of both committees. Both committees are financed, in whole or in part, by Epstein.

CIVIC

Ginger Vuich filed a Statement of Organization for CIVIC on July 10, 2014, listing [REDACTED] as [REDACTED]. The Commission noted that CIVIC did not complete line 6 and requested that the Committee amend its statement to indicate complete line 6 to show either "none" or any connected organization, affiliated committee, joint fundraising representative or leadership PAC sponsor. Vuich filed an amended statement of organization showing "none" on line 6, again listing [REDACTED] on or about October 1, 2014. Vuich attempted to resign as treasurer using a Form 99 submission on November 26, 2014. [REDACTED] filed an amended statement of organization naming herself [REDACTED] on December 17, 2014. [REDACTED] was, at all times, an agent of the Committee.

CIVIC has received only one contribution. Epstein gave \$5,000 on July 11, 2014.

CIVIC has made only one contribution. It contributed \$2,600 to Campaign Committee on November 5, 2014.

CIVIC appears to have been established by and to be controlled by [REDACTED] it appears to have been financed by Epstein.

Eagles Party PAC

[REDACTED] filed a statement of organization for Eagles Party PAC on February 11, 2014. The statement listed [REDACTED] as [REDACTED] and Ginger Vuich as assistant treasurer. As with CIVIC, the Commission requested that line 6 be completed. [REDACTED] filed an amended statement on March 10, 2014 with "none" listed on line 6. Another amended statement was filed on December 17, 2014, removing Vuich as an agent.

[REDACTED] Epstein, and Kramer are the only donors to Eagles Party PAC [REDACTED] having contributed \$700 and Epstein and Kramer contributing \$5,000 each (NB: A Form 99 submission indicates that [REDACTED] contributed \$1,700, but the quarterly report shows a loan repayment of \$1,000).

Eagles Party PAC made only one contribution. It contributed \$2,600 to Campaign Committee.

Eagles Party PAC appears to have been established by and to be controlled by [REDACTED] it appears to have been financed by Epstein and Kramer.

CIVIC and Eagles Party PAC appear to have been established and controlled by [REDACTED] The Committees appear to have been financed, in whole or in part, by Epstein. Vuich appears to have played some role in establishing and controlling the Committees.

The Committees appear to be affiliated and, as such, should each show the other as an affiliated committee on line 6 of the statement of organization and should share a single contribution limit of \$2,600—a limit exceeded when each committee independently gave \$2,600 to the Campaign Committee on November 5, 2014.

Nonconnected Committee Straw Donors

Regardless of whether CIVIC and Eagles Party PAC are affiliated, it appears that Epstein and Kramer, knowingly or unknowingly, through [REDACTED] management used the Committees to make excessive contributions to Campaign Committee.

Epstein contributed \$2,600 to campaign committee on April 22, 2014; \$5,000 to Eagles Party PAC on April 17, 2014; and \$5,000 to CIVIC on July 11, 2014.

Kramer contributed \$5,000 to Eagles Party PAC on February 7, 2014 and \$2,500 to Campaign Committee on June 17, 2014.

Between direct and indirect contributions, Epstein and Kramer contributed \$10,300 to Campaign Committee, well in excess of the \$5,200 that would result from each contributing the \$2,600 allowed by law.

Had Epstein and Kramer been among several donors to CIVIC and Eagles Party PAC and those committees had made contributions to more than one candidate's campaign committee, there might be an alternative explanation for these transactions, but it strains credulity to argue that these were anything other than straw donations.

In *McCutcheon, et al. v. FEC*, the Commission based its defense of aggregate contribution limits, in part, on the theory that they served the legitimate interest of "prevent[ing] evasion of the \$1,000 contribution limitation by a person who might otherwise contribute massive amounts of money to a particular candidate through the use of unearmarked contributions to a political committee likely to contribute to that candidate..." Brief for the Appellee at 33, *McCutchen, et al., v Federal Election Commission*, No. 12-536 (U.S. Apr. 2, 2014) (quoting *Buckley v Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 38 (1976) (*per curiam*)).

While the Court ultimately declined to uphold the aggregate limits, no one doubts that employing the scheme described in *Buckley* is illegal circumvention of contribution limitations.

Improper Reporting

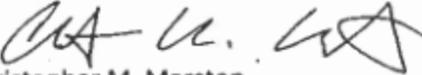
In addition to the issues surrounding contribution limitations, the reports filed by Campaign Committee and Eagles Party PAC are riddled with errors.

Campaign Committee, for example, in its post-general report, showed contributions from an individual and from CIVIC and Eagles Party PAC on line 11(b) of Schedule A, which is reserved for contributions from party committees, rather than on line 11(a) and 11(c) respectively.

Eagles Party PAC failed to report the source of its opening balance on its April Quarterly report. In response to the Commission's request, the Committee attempted to disclose the source using Form 99. Its explanation appears to indicate that the Committee exceeded the \$1,000 registration threshold in 2013 with \$1,700 in receipts, but failed to file a statement of organization until February 2014.

Thank you for considering this complaint. I look forward to learning the outcome of the complaint when the case is closed.

Sincerely,


Christopher M. Marston

City of Alexandria
Commonwealth of Virginia

The foregoing instrument was subscribed and sworn before me this 23 day of February, 2015 by
Christopher M. Marston


Brenda M. Hankins

Notary Registration Number 
My Commission expires: 7/31/2018

DESCRIPTION OF PRELIMINARY PROCEDURES
FOR PROCESSING COMPLAINTS FILED WITH THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

999 E Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20463
FAX (202) 219-3923

Complaints filed with the Federal Election Commission shall be referred to the Enforcement Division of the Office of the General Counsel, where they are assigned a MUR (Matter Under Review) number and forwarded to Complaints Examination & Legal Administration ("CELA") for processing. Within five days of receipt of the complaint, the Commission shall notify all respondents referenced in the complaint, in writing, that the complaint has been filed, and shall include with such notification a copy of the complaint. Simultaneously, the complainant shall be notified that the complaint has been received. The respondents shall then have 15 days to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against them in response to the complaint. If additional time is needed in which to respond to the complaint, the respondents may request an extension of time. The request must be in writing and demonstrate good cause as to why an extension should be granted. Please be advised that not all requests are granted.

After the response period has elapsed, cases are prioritized and maintained in CELA. Cases warranting the use of Commission resources are assigned as staff becomes available. Cases not warranting the use of Commission resources are dismissed.

If a case is assigned to a staff person, the Office of the General Counsel shall report to the Commission, making recommendations based upon a preliminary legal and factual analysis of the complaint and any submission made by the respondent. The report may recommend that the Commission: (a) find reason to believe that the complaint sets forth a possible violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, (hereinafter the "Act"); or (b) find no reason to believe that the complaint sets forth a possible violation of the Act and, accordingly, close the file.

If, by an affirmative vote of four Commissioners, the Commission determines that there is reason to believe that a respondent has committed or is about to commit a violation of the Act, the Office of the General Counsel shall open an investigation into the matter. During the investigation, the Commission has the power to subpoena documents, to subpoena individuals to appear for deposition, and to order written answers to interrogatories. A respondent may be contacted more than once by the Commission during this phase.

If during this period of investigation, a respondent indicates a desire to enter into conciliation, the Office of the General Counsel may recommend that the Commission enter into conciliation prior to a finding of probable cause to believe that a violation has been committed. Conciliation is an attempt to correct or prevent a violation of the Act by informal methods of conference and persuasion. Most often, the result of conciliation is an agreement signed by the Commission and the respondent. The Conciliation Agreement must be adopted by four votes of

the Commission in order to become final. After signature by the Commission and the respondent, the Conciliation Agreement is made public within 30 days of closing of the entire file.

If the investigation warrants, and no conciliation agreement has been entered into prior to a probable cause to believe finding, the General Counsel must notify the respondent of his/her intent to recommend that the Commission proceed to a vote on probable cause to believe that a violation of the Act has been committed or is about to be committed. The General Counsel shall send the respondent a brief setting forth his/her position on the legal and factual issues of the case. A response brief stating respondent's position on the issues may be submitted within 15 days of receipt of the General Counsel's Brief. Both briefs are then filed with the Commission Secretary and considered by the Commission. Thereafter, if the Commission determines, by an affirmative vote of four Commissioners, that there is probable cause to believe that a violation of the Act has been committed or is about to be committed, the Commission must conciliate with the respondent for a period of at least 30 days, but not more than 90 days. If the Commission is unable to correct or prevent any violation through conciliation, the Office of the General Counsel may recommend that the Commission file a civil suit to enforce the Act against the respondent. Therefore, the Commission may, upon the affirmative vote of four Commissioners, institute civil action for relief in the United States District Court.

See 52 U.S.C. § 30109 and 11 C.F.R. Part 111.

September 2014



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
 999 E Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20463

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

Provide one form for each Respondent/Witness

FAX 202-219-3923

MUR # _____

Name of Counsel: _____

Firm: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.

_____	_____	_____
Date	Signature (Respondent/Agent)	Title

RESPONDENT: _____
 (Committee Name/ Company Name/Individual Named in Notification Letter)

Mailing Address: _____
 (Please Print)

Telephone (H): _____ (W): _____

E-mail: _____

This form relates to a Federal Election Commission matter that is subject to the confidentiality provisions of 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(12)(A). This section prohibits making public any notification or investigation conducted by the Federal Election Commission without the express written consent of the person under investigation.