



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

November 27, 2009

Edward Clark, Treasurer
Vermont Democratic Party
P.O. Box 1220
Montpelier, VT 05601

Re: ADR 525 (RAD 09L-43)
Vermont Democratic Party and Edward Clark, Treasurer

Dear Mr. Clark:

The Federal Election Commission (FEC or Commission) referred a compliance issue to the FEC's Alternative Dispute Resolution Office (ADR Office) for processing. The referral by the Reports Analysis Division was based on a review of reports filed by the Vermont Democratic Party which reflect a possible failure to comply with the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.

The FEC established the ADR Program to provide an informal means for resolving matters that come before the Commission and to facilitate negotiations directly with Vermont Democratic Party and Edward Clark, Treasurer (Respondents or the Committee). The ADR Program provides Respondents with an opportunity to negotiate settlement of a matter that is mutually agreeable. The negotiations occur prior to any Commission consideration of whether there is reason to believe a violation has occurred. If negotiations are successful, the resulting settlement would conclude the matter.

The Commission, in referring the matter to the ADR Office, determined that the case is eligible for processing in the ADR program. If Respondents decide to participate in the ADR Program, you must: 1) indicate in writing a willingness to have your case submitted for ADR processing; 2) agree to participate in the bilateral interest based negotiations; and 3) waive the statute of limitations while the matter is being processed under the FEC's ADR program.

The issues referred to the ADRO, and the focus of our subsequent negotiations are summarized as follows:

The Reports Analysis Division referred the Vermont Democratic Party for the 2007-2008 Election Cycle and Edward Clark, Treasurer (Respondents or the Committee) for a series of reporting errors and other FECA violations during the 2008 election cycle. A political committee may be referred if, after an internal review of reports filed by the committee,

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION, ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICE
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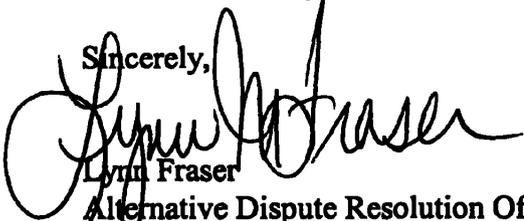
the Commission determines the reports do not meet the threshold requirements for substantial compliance with the FECA. The Committee's errors included, among other things: mathematical discrepancies, failure to provide supporting schedules, and the allocation of Federal and Non-federal activity.

We have attached a list of the relevant errors in each report for your convenience.

If after reviewing this letter and the enclosed brochure, which describes the ADR program, Respondent(s) would like this case selected for ADR processing, you need to affirmatively indicate that on the enclosed Commitment to Submit Matter to ADR form. **Failure to respond affirmatively within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of this letter will be taken as a notice of disinterest in the program and your case will be dropped from further consideration for ADR.** In that event, your case will be sent to the FEC's Office of General Counsel for further processing, and the likelihood that the Committee will be audited during the next election cycle will increase.

This matter has been designated as **ADR 525**. Please refer to this number in future correspondence with the FEC. If you have questions about the ADR Program, please contact the ADR Office at my direct dial as indicated below

Sincerely,



Lynn Fraser
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office
202-694-1665

Enclosures: Brochure
Commitment to Submit Matter to ADR
Designation of Representative/Counsel