



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

April 15, 2009

Gus Machado, Treasurer
U.S.-Cuba Democracy Political
Action Committee
P.O. Box 22945
Hialeah, FL 33002-2945

Response Due Date:
May 15, 2009

Identification Number: C00387720

Reference: Amended April Quarterly Report (1/1/08-3/31/08), received 4/18/08

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 3 items:

1. Schedule A of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions from an organization(s), which is not a political committee registered with the Commission. In order for your committee to accept contributions from unregistered organizations into accounts used to influence federal elections, your committee should take steps to insure that the contributor(s) used permissible funds to make the contribution(s) to avoid violating 2 U.S.C. §§441a(f) and 441b or 11 CFR §102.5(b). Under 11 CFR §102.5(b), organizations which are not political committees under the Act and choose to contribute to federal committees must either: 1) establish a separate account which contains only those funds permitted under the Act, or 2) demonstrate through a reasonable accounting method that the organization has received sufficient funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions in order to make the contribution.

If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. In addition, please clarify whether the contribution(s) received from the referenced organization(s) is permissible.

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To the extent that your committee has received prohibited funds, you may have to make a refund. If within 30 days of receipt you (1) transferred the prohibited amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund, you may retain the contribution in an account not used to influence federal elections. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 30 days of receipt, the prohibited amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR §103.3(b)(1).

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. Should you choose to transfer-out or refund the contribution(s), the Commission will presume the funds were impermissible if no statement from your committee provides information to the contrary. Transfers-out and refunds should be disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report covering the period during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, prompt action by your committee in transferring-out or refunding the amounts will be taken into consideration.

2. Schedule B of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 2 U.S.C. §441a(a) prohibits a multicandidate committee and its affiliates from making a contribution to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$5,000 per election.

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information.

If any contribution you made exceeds the limits, you must request a refund of the excessive amount or provide a written authorization for a redesignation of the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR §110.2(b) within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt.

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations were not met within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt, your committee must obtain a refund of the excessive amount.

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Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of the refund or redesignation request sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memo entries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. 11 CFR §110.1(b)

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the excessive contribution(s), your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

3. Schedule B supporting Line 23 of your report discloses one or more contributions to a candidate(s) for the 2008 Primary election; however, the funds were disbursed after the election date(s) (see attached). Please note that contributions may not be designated for an election which has already occurred unless the funds are to be used to reduce a candidate committee's debts incurred during that election campaign.

If any apparently impermissible contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If the contribution(s) in question should have been designated for debt retirement, you should amend your report to indicate "debt retirement," along with the year of election.

If you have made an impermissible contribution, you must request a refund or provide a written authorization for a redesignation of the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR §110.2(b) within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt.

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations were not met within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt, your committee must obtain a refund.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of the refund or redesignation request sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memo entries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. 11 CFR §110.1(b)

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this impermissible activity, your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

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Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1140.

Sincerely,



Brian Bennett
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

Receipt from an Unregistered Organization

Contributor Name	Date	Amount
*BANKUNITED, A SAVINGS BANK POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE	01/02/2008	\$5,000.00

*Committee Terminated on 8/16/99

Excessive Contribution To a Candidate

Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Report
ENGEL FOR CONGRESS	04/04/2007	\$5,000.00	P-2008	2007 Mid-Year
ENGEL, ELIOT	02/06/2008	\$2,500.00	P-2008	2008 April Quarterly

Contribution After Election Date

Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Election State - Date
GUITIERREZ, LUIS	02/11/2008	\$1,000.00	P-2008	IL-02/05/2008
HARE, PHILLIP	02/18/2008	\$1,000.00	P-2008	IL-02/05/2008
HALVORSON, DEBBIE	02/25/2008	\$2,000.00	P-2008	IL-02/05/2008
NEUGEBAUER, RANDY	03/10/2008	\$1,000.00	P-2008	TX-03/04/2008
KIRK, MARK STEVEN	03/13/2008	\$1,000.00	P-2008	IL-02/05/2008
SCHOCK, AARON	03/21/2008	\$1,000.00	P-2008	IL-02/05/2008

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