



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Via Electronic Mail Only
reiff@sandlerreiff.com
sandler@sandlerreiff.com

March 10, 2023

Neil P. Reiff
Joseph E. Sandler
Sandler Reiff Lamb Rosenstein & Birkenstock
1090 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20005

RE: AR 23-02

Dear Mr. Reiff and Mr. Sandler:

The Federal Election Commission (“Commission”) has ascertained information in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities indicating that your clients Sheila Jackson Lee for Congress and Karen Grays, in her official capacity as treasurer (“Committee”), may have violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the “Act”). Following an audit conducted by the Commission pursuant to 52 U.S.C. § 30111(b), the Committee has been referred by the Audit Division to the Commission’s Office of General Counsel for possible enforcement action under 52 U.S.C. § 30109.¹ Specifically, the Committee has been referred for misstatement of financial activity in the amount of \$120,605; Calendar Year 2020; receipt of contributions in excess of the limit totaling \$129,600; Calendar Years 2019 and 2029; and receipt of apparent prohibited contributions totaling \$10,450; Calendar Years 2019 and 2020. We have numbered this referral AR 23-02.

The Act affords you the opportunity to demonstrate in writing that no action should be taken against your clients Shelia Jackson Lee for Congress and Karen Grays in her official capacity as treasurer in this matter-. If you wish to file a response, you may submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission’s consideration of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath by persons with relevant knowledge. 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. Please be advised that, although the Commission cannot disclose information regarding an investigation to the public, it may share information on a confidential basis with other law enforcement agencies, including the Department of Justice.² While the matter remains open, it will

¹ Notification of this referral is being provided to you pursuant to the Commission’s Agency Procedure for Notice to Respondents in Non-Complaint Generated Matters, as published in the Federal Register on August 4, 2009 (74 Fed. Reg. 38,617).

² The Commission has the statutory authority to refer knowing and willful violations of the Act to the Department of Justice for potential criminal prosecution, 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(5)(C), and to report information regarding violations of law not within its jurisdiction to appropriate law enforcement authorities. *Id.* § 30107(a)(9).

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remain confidential as set forth above. After the matter is closed, certain documents from the file will be made available to the public on the Commission's website. To learn more about the agency's disclosure policy, please see 81 Fed. Reg. 51, 702 (Aug. 2, 2026), <https://fec.gov/resources/cms-content/documents/notice2016-06.pdf>

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.

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):

| | | |
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| <u>Mail</u> | OR | <u>Email</u> |
| Federal Election Commission Office of Complaints Examination & Legal Administration Attn: Christal Dennis, Paralegal 1050 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20463 | | cela@fec.gov |

As indicated in the FEC's Notice found at <https://www.fec.gov/resources/cms-content/documents/status-of-fec-operations.pdf>, the office's mailroom is open on a limited basis and, therefore, processing paper correspondence may be delayed. Accordingly, we strongly encourage you to file responses and additional correspondence via email.

If you have any questions, please contact Christal Dennis at (202) 694-1519. For your information, we have enclosed a brief description of the Commission's procedures for processing possible violations discovered by the Commission.

Sincerely,



Roy Q. Lockett
Acting Assistant General Counsel
Complaints Examination &
Legal Administration