



Shellycfth@aol.com on 02/04/2004 05:28:53 PM

To: mdove@fec.gov
cc: emincberg@pfaw.org, MBrosnahan@cfthomeless.org, PMarkee@cfthomeless.org, SNortz@cfthomeless.org
Subject: Draft Advisory Opinion 2003-37

By Electronic Delivery, February 4, 2004

Commission Secretary
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

Re: Draft Advisory Opinion 2003-37

Dear Commission Secretary:

Coalition for the Homeless, a 501 (c) (3) charity that is entirely non-partisan in its activities and based in Manhattan, wishes to notify you of our objections to Draft Advisory Opinion 2003-37, and add our name to the chorus of

opposition voiced in the comments submitted to your office earlier today by 324

organizations. Had we learned of the implications of the draft opinion in advance of your comment deadline earlier today, our name would have been included in

the list of those signing on to the comments. We agree with the comments submitted to your office this morning in opposition, and urge that you reject the

draft in its current form. Not only could the opinion hamper our legitimate non-partisan advocacy work, but it could also serve to limit the opportunities we

accord poor and disabled New Yorkers and our donors to express their opinions regarding matters of public policy. Please do not allow this kind of guidance to hamper our ability - and that of thousands of charitable organizations - to publicly support and oppose public policies and budgetary decisions that affect the lives of our clients and the programs that serve them. You may reach

me at our Albany office at 518-436-5612 should you have any need for further information regarding our comments.

Very sincerely yours,

Shelly Nortz

Deputy Executive Director for Policy
Coalition for the Homeless
129 Fulton Street, 4th floor
New York, New York 10038