Megan Sowards Newton Jones Day 51 Louisiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001

JUL 2 4 2019

RE: MUR 7540

Donald J. Trump for President, Inc. and
Bradley T. Crate, Treasurer

Dear Ms. Newton:

On November 14, 2018, the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") notified you of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"). On December 4, 2018, the Commission notified you of a supplement to the complaint. On July 19, 2019, based upon the information contained in the complaint and information provided by respondents, the Commission decided to dismiss allegations that Donald J. Trump for President, Inc. and Bradley T. Crate in his official capacity as treasurer violated provisions of the Act. The Commission then closed its file in this matter. A copy of the General Counsel's Report, which more fully explains the basis for the Commission's decision, is enclosed.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003) and Statement of Policy Regarding Placing First General Counsel's Reports on the Public Record, 74 Fed. Reg. 66132 (Dec. 14, 2009). If you have any questions, please contact Kristina Portner, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Stevenson Acting General Counsel

BY: Jeff S. Jordan

Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure:

General Counsel's Report

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM DISMISSAL REPORT

MUR: 7540 Respondents: Lara Trump,

Donald J. Trump for President, Inc.

Complaint Receipt Date: Nov. 8, 2018

Bradley Crate, as Treasurer

Supplement Complaint Receipt Date: Nov. 29, 2018

("Committee)

Response Date: Dec. 11, 2018¹

EPS Rating:

Alleged Statutory Violations:

52 U.S.C. § 30114(a)(3)

The Complaint alleges that Lara Trump and the Committee violated the Federal Election Campaign Act ("the Act") when Lara Trump personally delivered a \$10,000 donation of Committee funds to Paws Place, a 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.² Complainant asserts that Lara Trump should have made the contribution from her own funds, not the Committee's funds.³ The Committee responds that the Act permits campaigns to use their funds for charitable giving such as the donation in this particular case.⁴

Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in

No response received from Lara Trump.

² Compl. at 1 (Nov. 8, 2018); Suppl. Compl. at 1 (Nov. 29, 2018).

³ *ld*. at 2.

⁴ Resp. at 1 (Dec. 11, 2018).

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potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating and the apparent lack of a violation of the Act, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint consistent with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of agency resources. *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985). We also recommend that the Commission close the file and send the appropriate letters.

Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

Charles Kitcher Acting Associate General Counsel

6.28.19 Date:

BY:

Deputy Associate General Counsel

Jeff S. Jordan

Assistant General Counsel

Kristina M. Portner

Kuth Pok

Attorney