



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM

TO: THE COMMISSION
STAFF DIRECTOR
GENERAL COUNSEL
FEC PRESS OFFICE
FEC PUBLIC RECORDS

FROM: OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION SECRETARY

DATE: August 19, 2004

SUBJECT: *Ex Parte* COMMUNICATION
Re: Final Rules for Political Committee Status

MWD

Transmitted herewith is an *ex parte* communication from James Bopp, Jr., General Counsel for the James Madison Center for Free Speech, regarding the above-captioned matter.

Proposed final regulations are on the agenda for Thursday, August 19, 2004.

Attachment



"Raeanna Moore"
<rmoore@bopplaw.com>
08/18/2004 05:31 PM

<commissionertoner@fec.gov>,
<commissionerthomas@fec.gov>,
<commissionermcdonald@fec.gov>,
To <commissionermason@fec.gov>,
<commissionerweintraub@fec.gov>,
<commissionersmith@fec.gov>, <lnorton@fec.gov>,
<mdove@fec.gov>
cc "Raeanna Moore" <rmoore@bopplaw.com>
bcc
Subject Final Rules for Political Committee Status

Below is an electronic version of a letter submitted earlier today via facsimile.

JAMES MADISON CENTER FOR FREE SPEECH

August 18, 2004

Mary W. Dove, Commission Secretary
Lawrence H. Norton, General Counsel,
Federal Election Commission
Room 905
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20463-0002

RE: Final Rules for Political
Committee Status

VIA FACSIMILE: 202/219/2923

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: mdove@fec.gov, lnorton@fec.gov
commissionersmith@fec.gov, commissionerweintraub@fec.gov
commissionermason@fec.gov, commissionermcdonald@fec.gov
commissionerthomas@fec.gov, commissionertoner@fec.gov

Dear Ms. Dove, Mr. Norton and Commission Members:

This letter is to request that the Commission decline to vote on the "Final Rules for Political Committee Status" currently scheduled to be voted upon at tomorrow's open meeting and instead put them out for public comment. The public should be allowed an opportunity to comment before the Commission makes a final decision because the proposed final rules differ significantly from those previously released to the public and will potentially have a significant effect on various citizen groups, including 501(c)(4) organizations. These potential significant effects should be seriously considered by both the Commission and the public before a final rule is adopted.

Sincerely,

James Madison Center for Free Speech

/s/
James Bopp, Jr.
General Counsel