

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DECEMBER 19, 1991

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FEC DENIES ELIGIBILITY FOR LYNDON LaROUCHE

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission today denied eligibility to receive federal matching funds for Lyndon LaRouche's 1992 presidential campaign.

While admitting that this case was difficult, the Commission felt a statutory obligation to protect the public fisc and believed that, based on past actions, Mr. LaRouche could not supply adequate assurances of compliance that Congress had intended to require of candidates receiving public funds.

The Commission based its decision on the fact that Mr. LaRouche had established a past record which showed a pattern and practice of fraud related to fundraising activities for his previous presidential campaigns, as well as a disregard for abiding by his candidate agreements and various election law and Fund Act requirements.

An additional consideration discussed by the Commission was the impact of Mr. LaRouche's criminal conviction on the viability of his candidacy. Based on the fact that 36 states prohibit a currently imprisoned, convicted felon from appearing on their ballots, it was felt that the seriousness of his candidacy would be undermined.

The LaRouche campaign submitted its application for matching funds on November 18, 1991, along with documentation for contributions received from individuals in the following twenty-two states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The LaRouche campaign has 30 days to appeal the Commission's initial determination. The FEC would then consider the campaign's arguments and issue a final determination. Should the campaign still dispute the Commission's ruling, it could appeal to the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals.

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