

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC TO HOLD HEARING ON 1992 WILDER PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN -Campaign challenges agency's audit findings-

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 5, to hear a presentation by representatives of the Wilder for President Committee disputing certain findings contained in the agency's audit of the 1992 campaign.

The FEC's final audit report, issued on April 21, 1994, determined that the committee should remit \$40,252 to the U.S. Treasury. A portion of this amount is a \$31,058 repayment based on audit findings that the committee made apparent non-qualified campaign expenses and received matching funds in excess of their entitlement. The FEC audit also required the committee to pay the U.S. Treasury \$9,184 for excessive and prohibited contributions it received during the campaign. The committee is also challenging the agency's findings that the campaign should reimburse the Commonwealth of Virginia \$30,848 for use of state airplanes and telephones.

Commission regulations provide publicly funded candidates with the opportunity to respond to an initial repayment determination by submitting written legal and factual materials to demonstrate that no repayment, or a lesser repayment, is appropriate. Campaigns may also request an opportunity to address the Commission in an open public session.

Committee representatives will be granted 30 minutes to present their arguments on the issues raised in their written response. Following that presentation, questions may be asked by individual Commissioners, the FEC General Counsel and the FEC Audit Division.

The six FEC Commissioners will consider the the committee's oral testimony as well as its written responses in making their final determination on the issues.

The Wilder for President Committee requested this hearing in a letter dated July 25, 1994, which accompanied their response to the Final Audit Report. The committee's request was granted August 11.

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