

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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For Immediate Release:
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FEC RELEASES FIVE COMPLIANCE CASES

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission has made public its final action on five matters previously under review (MURs). This release contains only summary information. Closed files should be thoroughly read for details, including the FEC's legal analysis of the case. (Please see footnote at the end of this release.) Closed MUR files are available in the Public Records Office.

1. MUR 4121

RESPONDENTS: (a) The Honorable William Lipinski (IL)
(b) Lipinski for Congress, John Mooney, treasurer (IL)
COMPLAINANTS: Illinois Republican Party, Harold Smith, Chairman, and Patrick J. O'Shea, General Counsel (IL)
SUBJECT: Disclaimers
DISPOSITION: Conciliation Agreement: \$6,000 civil penalty*

2. MUR 4581

RESPONDENTS: Consolidated Local Union No. 177 of the I.B.E.W. Outside - Inside PAC Fund, Thomas M. Gibbons, treasurer (FL)
COMPLAINANT: FEC Initiated (RAD)
SUBJECT: Failure to file disclosure report timely
DISPOSITION: Conciliation Agreement: \$1,100 civil penalty*

3. MUR 4596/Pre-MUR 331

RESPONDENTS: (a) Nebraska Democratic State Central Committee (non - federal account), Gerry Finnegan, treasurer (NE)
(b) Nebraskans for Nelson, Michael A. Shrier, treasurer (NE)
(c) Snyder Industries, Inc. (NE)

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COMPLAINANTS: Referral by Dannie Trautwein, Executive Director, Nebraska
Accountability and Disclosure Commission (NE)
SUBJECT: Corporate contribution; failure to forward earmarked contributions to
specified committee
DISPOSITION: (a) Reason to believe, but took no further action*
(re: failure to forward earmarked contributions to specified committee)
Sent admonishment letter.
(b-c) No reason to believe*

4. MUR 4597/Pre-MUR 337

RESPONDENTS: (a) Nebraskans for Nelson, Michael A. Shrier, treasurer (NE)
(b) Dan Witt Builders, Inc. (NE)
COMPLAINANTS: Referral by Dannie Trautwein, Executive Director, Nebraska
Accountability and Disclosure Commission (NE)
SUBJECT: Corporate contribution
DISPOSITION: (a-b) No reason to believe*

5. MUR 4598/Pre-MUR 340

RESPONDENTS: (a) Nebraskans for Nelson, Michael A. Shrier, treasurer (NE)
(b) Bereuter for Congress Committee, James W. Hewitt, treasurer (NE)
(c) Erickson & Sederstrom, P.C. (NE)
COMPLAINANTS: Referral by Dannie Trautwein, Executive Director, Nebraska Accountability
and Disclosure Commission (NE)
SUBJECT: Corporate contributions
DISPOSITION: (a-c) No reason to believe*

*There are four administrative stages to the FEC enforcement process:

1. Receipt of proper complaint
2. "Reason to believe" stage
3. "Probable cause" stage
4. Conciliation stage

It requires the votes of at least four of the six Commissioners to take any action. The FEC can close a case at any point after reviewing a complaint. If a violation is found and conciliation cannot be reached, then the FEC can institute a civil court action against a respondent.

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