



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

August 2, 2012

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Tony P. Trimble, Esq.
Matthew W. Haapoja, Esq.
Trimble & Associates, Ltd.
10201 Wayzata Boulevard, Suite 130
Minneapolis, MN 55305

RE: Advisory Opinion Request 2012-24

Dear Messrs. Trimble and Haapoja:

This letter responds to your letter received on July 11, 2012, requesting an advisory opinion on behalf of Dean Peterson. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Commission has concluded its consideration of your advisory opinion request without issuing an advisory opinion.

The Commission released three public drafts of an advisory opinion in response to your request. On July 31, 2012, the Commission released for public comment Agenda Document No. 12-56, containing Drafts A and B, and on August 1, 2012, the Commission released Agenda Document No. 12-56-A, containing a revised Draft B.

At its Open Meeting of August 2, 2012, the Commission considered but did not approve any draft. Under the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, the affirmative vote of four members of the Commission is required for the Commission to render an advisory opinion. *See* 2 U.S.C. 437c(c) and 437d(a)(7); *see also* 11 CFR 112.4(a). The Commission voted 3-3 on Agenda Document No. 12-56 (Draft A), voted 1-5 on Agenda Document 12-56-A (Revised Draft B), and did not vote on Agenda Document No. 12-56 (Draft B). Thus, the Commission was unable to render an opinion in this matter.

Agenda Document Nos. 12-56 and 12-56-A are enclosed for your information and convenience. Please keep in mind that none of these documents is an advisory opinion under the Federal Election Campaign Act, because no document was approved by the affirmative vote of at least four Commissioners.

Sincerely,

(signed by ALR)
Kevin Deeley
Acting Associate General Counsel

Enclosures