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Facsimile 202-457-6315 www.pattonboggs.com

May 10, 2001

Benjamin L. Ginsberg 202-457-6405 bginsberg@pattonboggs.com

### **VIA COURIER**

Jeff S. Jordan Supervisory Attorney Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20463

Re:

MUR 5197

1997 Republican Senate-House Dinner Committee and Trudy Matthes Barksdale, as Treasurer

Dear Mr. Jordan:

This responds to the April 23, 2001 letter from the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") notifying the 1997 Republican Senate-House Dinner Committee and Trudy Matthes Barksdale, as treasurer (collectively "Dinner Committee"), of the complaint filed against it by the National Taxpayers Union ("NTU") in the above referenced Matter Under Review ("MUR"). The complaint was received on April 26, 2001. The Statement of Designation of Counsel form is attached. (See attachment 1.) For the reasons set forth below, there is no basis in law or fact supporting the complaint and the Commission should dismiss it as applied to the Dinner Committee.

The Dinner Committee terminated on March 19, 1999. (See attachment 2.) It was a joint fundraising committee established pursuant to 11 C.F.R. § 102.17 by the National Republican Senatorial Committee ("NRSC") and the National Republican Congressional Committee ("NRCC"). As such, the Dinner Committee established accounts to receive contributions for the NRSC and NRCC before transferring all proceeds, minus expenses, to the participating Committees. The Dinner Committee also established several non-federal accounts in accordance

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Jeff S. Jordan May 10, 2001 Page 2

with 11 C.F.R. § 102.17(c)(3), including a building fund account. See also 2 U.S.C. § 431(8)(B)(viii) & 431(9)(B)(viii); 11 C.F.R. § 114.1(a)(2)(ix). During the Dinner Committee's existence, no questions or allegations were raised by the Commission or any other third party concerning the legality of any donation to the Dinner Committee's building fund account.

The Dinner Committee no longer exists. Accordingly, the Commission should dismiss the complaint as applied to the Dinner Committee.

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

McGinley

Respectfully submitted

Attachments

The donation from Fannie Mae was deposited into the Dinner Committee's building fund account. (See attachment 3.) The donation was not deposited into any account used to finance any election activity. The proceeds from the Dinner Committee's building fund account were disbursed to the NRSC and NRCC's building fund accounts. (See id.) These donations were not used by the Dinner Committee in connection with any election at the federal, state or local level. Therefore, the Dinner Committee complied with the building fund donation, disbursement and reporting requirements under the Act and Commission regulations.

# STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR	
NAME OF COUNSEL: Benjamin Ginsberg/Bill McGinley	•
FIRM: Patton Boggs, LLP	N.
ADDRESS: 2550 M Street, NW	
Washington, DC 20037	
TELEPHONE:(_202_)_457~6000	
FAX:( 202 ) 457-6315	
The above-named individual is hereby designated as my country and is authorized to receive any notifications and other community from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission and the	ications
Trudy Matthes Barksdale, Treasurer  RESPONDENT'S NAME: 1997 Republican Senate-House Dinner	· .
ADDRESS: 7285 Swan Point Way	
Columbia, Maryland 21045	_
	· -
TELEPHONE: HOME( 301 ) 596-7086	
BUSINESS( 301 ) 596-7086	



#### FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

EBMS J.D., NOTONIHZAW

MS-K

Trudy Matthes Barksdale, Treasurer 1997 Republican Senate-House Dianer 7285 Swan Point Way Columbia, MD 21045

Identification Number:

C00326686

Reference:

Year End Termination (11/24/98-12/31/98)

Dear Ms. Barksdale:

Your committee's filing has been accepted as a valid termination because it meets the conditions set forth in 2 U.S.C. §433(it) and 11 CFR §102.3. Your committee is no longer required to file reports on a periodic basis. However, 2 U.S.C. §432(d) and 11 CFR \$\$102.9(c) and 104.14(b)(3) require that you maintain your records and copies of reports for inspection for at least three (3) years. In addition, you may be required to respond to Commission requests for information regarding your committee's federal election activity and previously filed reports.

If your committee again becomes active in federal elections, it will be required to re-register with the Commission in accordance with the Federal Election Campaign Act and applicable Regulations. Your committee will be treated as a new entity by the Commission and should register as a new committee on FEC FORM 1, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. §§432(g) and 433(a).

Political committees and separate segregated funds which once attained multicandidate committee status and subsequently terminated will, upon re-registration, again he required to meet the criteria set forth in 2 U.S.C. §441a(a)(4).

If you have any questions concerning your status and requirements, please contact the Reports Analysis Division on the toll-free number, (800) 424-9530. My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

Antoinette Kitchen Reports Analyst

Reports Analysis Division



### **AGGREGATION PAGE** NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNTS OF NATIONAL PARTY

(Use a separate Appropriate Page for each confederal account)

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SCHEDULE A

ITEMIZED RECEIPTS

PAGE 1 OF 2

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