



## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

999 E Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20463

2006 FEB 17 P 1: 57

## AGENDA ITEM

For Meeting of: 2-23-06

## **MEMORANDUM**

SUBMITTED LATE

To:

The Commission

General Counsel Staff Director

Office of the Commission Secretary

From:

Chairman Michael E. Toner

Commissioner David M. Mason

Commissioner Hans A. von Spakovsky

Date:

February 17, 2006

Re:

Proposed Final Regulations - Definitions of "Solicit" and "Direct", 11

C.F.R 300

Attached please find proposed final regulations regarding "to solicit" and "to direct" that we plan to offer at the Commission's open session on February 23, 2006.

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## PART 300 - NON-FEDERAL FUNDS

- 1. The authority citation for Part 300 continues to read as follows:
- Authority: 2 U.S.C. 434(e), 438(a)(8), 441a(a), 441i, 453.
- 2. Section 300.2 is amended by revising paragraphs (m) and (n) to read as follows: § 300.2 Definitions.
- (m) To solicit. For the purposes of Part 300, to solicit means to ask or request, explicitly or implicitly, that another person make a contribution, donation, transfer of funds, or otherwise provide anything of value, whether the contribution, donation, transfer of funds, or thing of value it is to be made or provided directly, or through a conduit or intermediary. A solicitation shall be limited to unambiguous appeals for funds or things of value. A solicitation shall not include any other types of speech, such as statements of political support. A solicitation does not include merely providing information or guidance as to the requirement of particular law.
  - (1) Types of communications that are solicitations. Types of communications

    that satisfy the definition of "to solicit" contained in paragraph (m) of this

    section include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - (i) A written communication that provides a method of making a

      contribution or donation, regardless of the other text of the

      communication. This includes, but is not limited to, providing a

      separate card, envelope, or reply device that contains an address to

      which funds may be sent and allows contributors or donors to

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- indicate the dollar amount of their contribution or donation to the candidate, political committee, or other organization.
- (ii) A communication that provides instructions on how or where to

  send contributions or donations, including providing a phone

  number specifically dedicated to facilitating the making of

  contributions or donations.
- (iii) A communication that identifies a Web address where the Web

  page displayed is specifically dedicated to facilitating the making

  of a contribution or donation, or automatically redirects the

  Internet user to such a page, or exclusively displays a link to such a page.
- (2) A communication does not, in and of itself, satisfy the definition of "to solicit" contained in paragraph (m) of this section merely because it includes a mailing address, phone number, or Web address, of a candidate, political committee, or other organization, other than a mailing address, phone number, or Web address described in paragraph (m)(1) of this section.
- (n) To direct. For the purposes of part 300, to direct means to guide ask a person who has expressed an intent to make a contribution, donation, transfer of funds, or otherwise provide anything of value, by identifying a candidate, political committee or organization, for the receipt of a contribution, donation, transfer of funds, or thing of value, to make that contribution, donation, transfer of funds, or to provide that thing of value, including through a conduit or intermediary. The contribution, donation, transfer,

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