

MEMORANDUM

TO:

THE COMMISSION

STAFF DIRECTOR GENERAL COUNSEL

FEC PRESS OFFICE

FEC PUBLIC RECORDS

FROM:

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION SECRETARY

DATE:

August 19, 2004

SUBJECT:

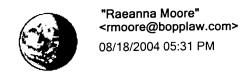
Ex Parte COMMUNICATION

Re: Final Rules for Political Committee Status

Transmitted herewith is an ex parte communication from James Bopp, Jr., General Counsel for the James Madison Center for Free Speech, regarding the above-captioned matter.

Proposed final regulations are on the agenda for Thursday, August 19, 2004.

Attachment



<commissionertoner@fec.gov>,
<commissionerthomas@fec.gov>,
<commissionermcdonald@fec.gov>,
<commissionermason@fec.gov>,

To <commissionermason@fec.gov>, <commissionerweintraub@fec.gov>, <commissionersmith@fec.gov>, <Inorton@fec.gov>, <mdove@fec.gov>

cc "Raeanna Moore" <rmoore@bopplaw.com>

bcc

Subject Final Rules for Political Committee Status

Below is an electronic version of a letter submitted earlier today via facsimile.

JAMES MADISON CENTER FOR FREE SPEECH

August 18, 2004

Mary W. Dove, Commission Secretary Lawrence H. Norton, General Consel, Federal Election Commission Room 905 999 E Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20463-0002 RE: Final Rules for Political Committee Status

VIA FACSIMILE: 202/219/2923

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: mdove@fec.gov, lnorton@fec.gov commissionersmith@fec.gov, commissionermason@fec.gov, commissionerthomas@fec.gov, commissionerthomas

Dear Ms. Dove, Mr. Norton and Commission Members:

This letter is to request that the Commission decline to vote on the "Final Rules for Political Committee Status" currently scheduled to be voted upon at tomorrow's open meeting and instead put them out for public comment. The public should be allowed an opportunity to comment before the Commission makes a final decision because the proposed final rules differ significantly from those previously released to the public and will potentially have a significant effect on various citizen groups, including 501(c)(4) organizations. These potential significant effects should be seriously considered by both the Commission and the public before a final rule is adopted.

Sincerely,

James Madison Center for Free Speech

/s/ James Bopp, Jr. General Counsel