



**FISCAL YEAR 2008
PERFORMANCE BUDGET
FOR THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION (FEC)
(WWW.FEC.GOV)**

Administering and Enforcing Federal Campaign Finance Laws

CONGRESSIONAL SUBMISSION

FEBRUARY 5, 2007

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1.0 - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The mission of the Federal Election Commission (FEC) is to ensure that the campaign finance process is fully disclosed and that all federal campaign finance laws and FEC regulations are effectively and fairly enforced. The FEC fulfills this mission through education and outreach, conciliation, rulemaking, advisory opinions, and when necessary, litigation. In addition to administering and enforcing the limits, prohibitions and reporting requirements of the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended (FECA), the Commission also administers and oversees the Presidential Election Campaign Fund and the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account Fund, which are financed by the voluntary tax check-off provided on Federal income tax returns.

This year's performance budget will be used as the baseline for developing a fully integrated strategic plan with measurable performance goals that will carry the agency into FY 2010 and beyond. Further, the plan will be used to hold leadership publicly accountable for driving organizational excellence in achieving measurable performance outcomes by promoting greater emphasis on results and quality service while fostering the highest standards in ethics and integrity.

While the FEC is an independent regulatory agency, it is committed to modeling the best public and private sector practices, and is actively engaged in reaching out to various entities to help identify benchmarks for the FEC's future state. The Commission is refining the organizational structure, revising internal processes and controls, and continuing to identify automation enhancements to improve internal and external responsiveness. The FEC is also committed to ensuring that the annual information technology investments serve as integral factors in significantly improving the ability to serve citizens and ensuring that the computer systems are safe and secure. Implementation of these efficiency-enhancing strategies and tools can only be achieved with the requested level of resources.

Concerning the Commission's most important asset, its employees, the FEC is committed to ensuring that its human capital management processes make the agency an employer of choice, both within and outside of the public sector. To help build and retain a management team, to address the need for succession planning, and to implement the aforementioned improvements, the Commission is examining its current compensation structure for better alignment with performance. The Commission is committed to ensuring that performance is routinely considered in management decisions and compensation and that its programs achieve expected results and work toward continual improvement. In short, the FEC is dedicated to a deliberate approach to using the limited resources that have been entrusted to the FEC to achieve intended goals while holding managers accountable for achieving results.

With the support of the FEC's Congressional committees, the agency has continued to perform successfully in spite of an extremely challenging operating environment and rapidly rising workloads as campaigns continue to become more complex and costly. The Commission will continue to refine its processes to ensure that the FEC meets the highest standards in responsiveness, professionalism, and accuracy of information provided.

A few of the Commission's noteworthy accomplishments in FY 2006 include:

- Negotiation of conciliation agreements for civil penalties amounting to a record level of over \$5.9 million, more than doubling the total amount of penalties of any other single year, including the highest civil penalty for a single case obtained in Commission history;
- Processing nearly 78,000 financial filings, the equivalent of 3.9 million pages of financial data, disclosing about \$2.7 billion in spending related to federal elections;
- Completion of work on 11 rulemaking proceedings resulting from challenges to the regulations implementing the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act;
- Issuance of 29 advisory opinions to persons who requested guidance from the Commission on the application of federal campaign finance laws to specific factual situations;
- Initiation of an expedited process to consider and issue advisory opinions on important and time-sensitive issue;
- Enhancement of the FileNet Image and Content Management System hosting 13 million images of electronically-filed campaign finance forms. These can be searched by the general public through a web interface that is updated daily;
- Implementation of new legislative directives to protect private information and agency sensitive data;
- Implementation of Pod-casting. This allows public access to downloadable audio from open sessions;
- Conversion of the paper Explanation and Justification for all FEC regulations and *Court Case Abstracts* into hypertext files available on the web.

Consistent with the OMB passback, the FEC's FY 2008 budget request is \$59,224,000, an increase of \$5,071,000, or 9.4 percent, over the anticipated FY 2007 full-year continuing resolution rate. This anticipated base rate for FY 2007 is unchanged from the FY 2006 level. Accordingly, the full request is needed to facilitate the FEC's effectively managing two years worth of mandated pay increases and inflationary pressures on non-pay expenditures, including a nearly \$1.6 million rent increase. The remainder of the requested increase supports strategic information technology initiatives that will bring us into compliance with acceptable Government-wide standards for systems and data integrity. These initiatives are covered in more detail in Appendix B.

The requested level of funding will enable us to administer and enforce the three core components of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA), as amended, which are the:

- Disclosure of campaign finance information;
- Enforcement of federal campaign finance laws;
- Public financing of Presidential elections.

It is noteworthy that while FY 2008 is a Presidential election year, which will translate to a substantial workload increase for the agency, the Commission is not requesting additional staff. Increased workloads associated with Presidential elections continue beyond the election year for responsibilities such as mandatory audits of those receiving public funds and for enforcement cases associated with the Presidential election. The Commission believes that through restructuring, process improvements, and technology leveraging, the FEC will improve its overall efficiency and effectiveness. However, it is vital that the Commission be provided with this level of funding to ensure that the FEC is able to invest in its infrastructure and the technology to gain these efficiencies.

2.0 - APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE (PROPOSED)

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, \$59,224,000 of which not less than \$8,100,000 shall be available for internal automated data processing systems, and of which not to exceed \$5,000 shall be available for reception and representation expenses; Provided, That, the FEC is authorized to establish, modify, charge, and collect registration fees for FEC-hosted conferences; Provided further, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, funds received from fees charged to attend the FEC-hosted conferences shall be credited to and merged with this account, to be available without further appropriation for the costs of carrying out these conferences.

3.0 - ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

As early as 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt recognized the need for campaign finance reform. He called for legislation to ban corporate contributions for political purposes and in 1907 proposed public funding of federal elections. From 1907 to 1966, Congress enacted several statutes to:

- Regulate spending in federal campaigns;
- Mandate public disclosure of campaign finances.

In 1971, Congress consolidated its earlier reform efforts with the enactment of the FECA. The Act instituted:

- More stringent disclosure requirements for federal candidates, political parties, and political action committees (PACs);
- An income tax check-off to provide for the financing of Presidential general election campaigns and national party conventions.

Even though Congress had carefully considered the appropriate legislation to ensure the fairness of the federal elections, enforcement of the laws was difficult without a central administrative authority. For a time, authority was split between the then General Accounting Office (GAO), the Clerk of the House, and the Secretary of the Senate, with criminal enforcement in the Department of Justice.

In response to reports of serious financial abuses during the 1972 Presidential campaign, Congress amended the FECA in 1974 to set limits on contributions by individuals, political parties, and PACs. Further, it established the Federal Election Commission as an independent agency with central authority for the civil enforcement of the FECA.

In 1971, Congress established the income tax check-off to provide for the financing of Presidential general election campaigns and national party conventions. Amendments to the Internal Revenue Code in 1974 established the matching fund program for Presidential primary campaigns. Currently, the programs allow taxpayers to indicate, without any increase to the taxpayer's bill, whether they wished to designate \$3 (\$6 on joint returns) to the Presidential Election Campaign Fund.

The Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (BCRA) amended the FECA further. It banned national parties from raising or spending non-federal funds (often called "soft money"), restricted funding of so-called issue ads, increased the contribution limits, and indexed certain limits for inflation.

4.0 PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Introduction

Fiscal Year 2008 covers the major primary election period for the Presidential election. The Commission anticipates that FY 2008 will result in a record-level workload based on ever increasing political campaign finance activity and the lack of a Presidential incumbent, which is expected to result in a larger field of candidates than in 2004.

Since 1976, total disbursements (spending) in federal elections have increased by more than 1,500 percent from approximately \$310 million to \$4.7 billion in 2004.

From 1984 to 2004, the FEC experienced workload increases of:

- 32 percent more documents filed per election cycle;
- 465 percent more transactions entered into the database.

Currently, the FEC receives information from approximately 8,000 committees filing more than 96,000 reports and generating between 2 and 3 million itemized transactions each election cycle. The FEC's electronic filing system eases the filing of these reports and the data analysis necessary to determine whether compliance with the FECA is being achieved. As a result of the mandatory electronic filing, the median time to process documents has improved from 11 days in the 2000 cycle to 2 days in the 2004 cycle.

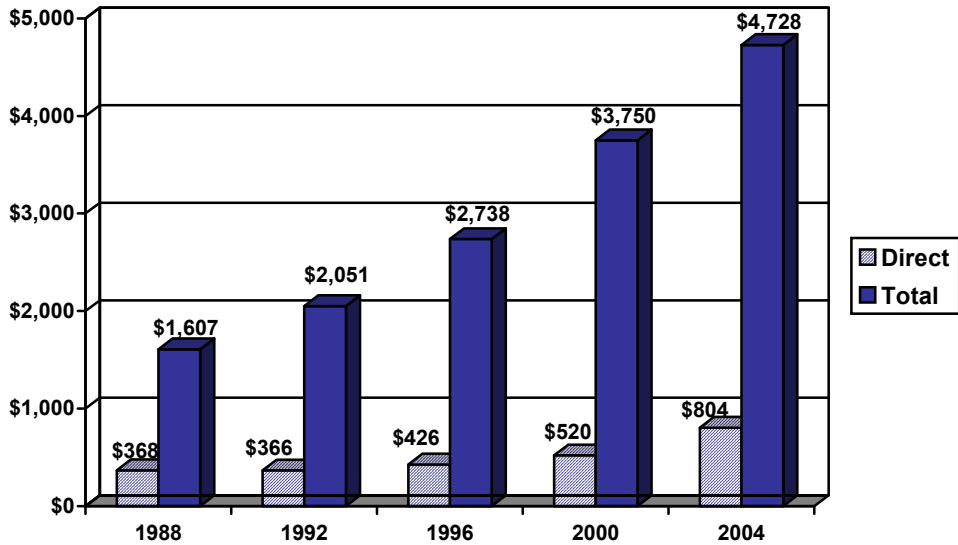
Staffing and Workload

The FEC processed these record-level workloads with reduced staffing levels. While the workload has continued to increase over the years, the FEC has relied upon management initiatives and technology advancements to meet the demands. The Commission continues to provide high levels of service to the regulated community and the public, while continually exploring ways to operate more efficiently.

Every election cycle since 1992 has set a new record in total spending. Total candidate and committee disbursements for a non-Presidential election cycle increased from \$1.1 billion in 1986 to \$3.1 billion in the 2002 Congressional elections. In Presidential elections, spending reached \$4.7 billion for the 2004 cycle, compared to \$1.6 billion in 1988. The tables on the following page reflect the total disbursements by federal committees and candidates in recent elections – with spending more than tripling for comparable cycles. These tables provide a graphical depiction of the ever-increasing workload demands.

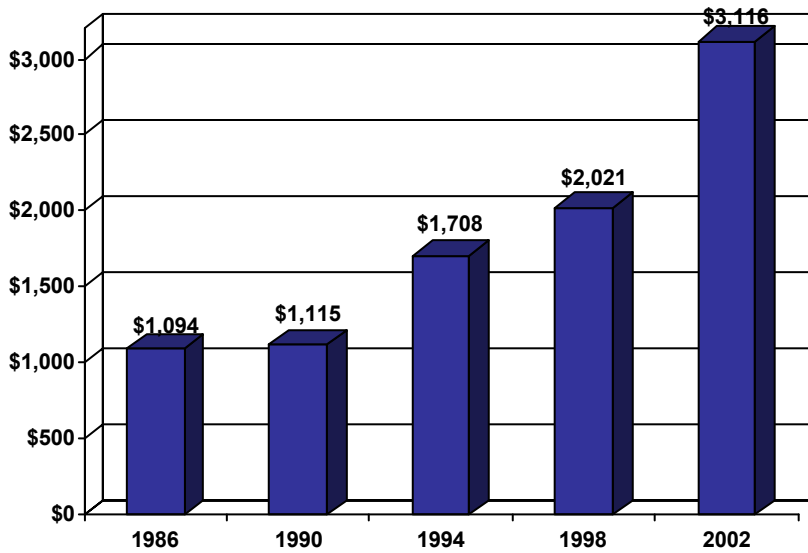
4.0 Program Goals and Objectives, continued

Table 4.1 – Disbursements during Presidential Election Cycles (\$ Millions)



Note: Direct disbursements are expenditures made by Presidential candidates, and total disbursements are all expenditures (including direct disbursements). The two totals are provided for comparison.

Table 4.2 – Disbursements during Congressional Election Cycles (\$ Millions)



4.0 Program Goals and Objectives, continued

Core Programs

As previously mentioned, the FEC will continue to rely upon internal efficiencies and technology leveraging to meet the demands associated with the increased workload.

There are three core programs that directly support the FEC’s mission:

- Promoting disclosure;
- Enforcing the FECA;
- Administering the public financing of Presidential elections.

The Commission fully supports the government-wide mandate for federal agencies to maximize efficiency and effectiveness to ensure the most responsible expenditure of taxpayer dollars. Toward that end, the Commission has devoted considerable focus to facilitating voluntary compliance with federal campaign finance laws and FEC regulations. The FEC relies on effective outreach and informational programs to reduce violations due to a lack of awareness or understanding of the laws and regulations. These outreach efforts include the FEC website (www.fec.gov), FEC’s toll-free information line (1-800-424-9530), campaign finance workshops, seminars, and conferences, and campaign guides and brochures. The FEC has received high marks from the regulated community, the media, and the public for this proactive approach of disseminating information.

The proposed appropriation language contained in this request seeks to ensure the continuation of these proactive efforts by authorizing the FEC to charge and collect registration fees that cover the costs of these FEC-hosted conferences. Without this authorization or a substantial funding increase, the ability to achieve the FEC’s mandate of promoting disclosure will significantly be hindered.

The following table identifies the resource requirements associated with each of the Commission’s core programs:

Table 4.3 – Resource Requirements to Support Core Programs

Program	\$ ^{/1}	FTE
Promoting disclosure	\$ 22,647,258	143.4
Enforcing the FECA	\$ 27,985,314	177.2
Administering the public financing of Presidential elections	\$ 8,591,428	54.4
Total	\$ 59,224,000	375.0

1/ These estimates are based on allocation of direct and indirect costs for FY 2006.

4.1 Promoting Disclosure

Overview

The FEC's disclosure objectives include processing incoming campaign finance reports from federal political committees and making the reports available to the public. These functions are essential to promoting the transparency of the election process, and the available data provide the foundation for analysis and further study by the public, the media, elections interest groups, and the academic community.

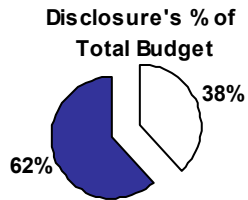
In addition to maintaining the in-person availability of FEC data, the Commission is improving user-friendly access to its resources through the FEC website and other electronically-provided data and publications. The FEC encourages the public to review the many resources available, which include computer indices, advisory opinions, and closed Matters Under Review (MURs). In calendar year 2006, the FEC electronic disclosure database and website received 3.7 million visits and 105 million hits by users seeking campaign finance data and FEC documents.

While the Commission will continue to print and make available copies of brochures and publications, increasingly the needs of the regulated community, the public, and the press are served by electronically-available educational and informational materials. During non-peak campaign seasons, the FEC website averaged more than 8,000 visits per day. The number of visits increases an average of 10,000 visits per day during peak campaign seasons. A new "*Tips for Treasurers*" page that was launched in July 2006 received 3,200 visits during its first month of availability. To address public demand and legislative changes, the FEC continually needs to upgrade and enhance its website and electronic filing systems. It is essential that the FEC is fully funded in order to make these performance enhancing investments.

The Commission continues to respond to many telephone and written requests for information, data, and assistance in filing reports. The Information Division's 1- 800 number and the Reports Analysis Division's (RAD) analysts assigned to specific committees continue to be an integral part of the FEC's efforts to inform and educate the regulated community and the public and to foster voluntary compliance with the FECA. The Public Records Office houses a library with knowledgeable staff to help researchers and the public locate documents and relevant data.

Program Objectives

Approximately 38 percent of the agency's budget is dedicated to promoting disclosure. Specific disclosure program objectives include:



- Making filed reports available to the public within 48 hours;
- Reviewing and processing political committee financial reports accurately and timely;
- Responding to data requests within 72 hours;
- Educating the regulated community, the public, and the media about the legal requirements associated with the core elements of federal election campaign finance law – disclosure, contributions limits and prohibitions, and the public financing of Presidential elections.

Program Goals

To meet the disclosure program objectives, the Commission will achieve the following goals identified as part of its overarching disclosure processes.

Review and Processing of Reports

To achieve accurate and timely review and processing of reports, the FEC will:

- ❖ Facilitate the electronic filing of reports by all political committees reaching a certain threshold, excluding Senate committees and the national parties' Senate campaign committees;
- ❖ Meet the deadlines for placing reports filed by political committees on the public record;
- ❖ Review for accuracy and complete disclosure 100 percent of reports filed;
- ❖ Request additional information from filers to facilitate voluntary correction of the public record;
- ❖ Code and enter into the FEC database all information contained in 95 percent of reports within 45 days of receipt.

Public Disclosure and Dissemination of Campaign Finance Data

To ensure that campaign finance data is widely disseminated and publicly available, the Commission will:

- ❖ Provide public access to the FEC disclosure database and digital images of reports through the Internet;
- ❖ Operate a Public Records Office, where personal assistance is also available;
- ❖ Operate a Press Office to facilitate media coverage of agency activity;
- ❖ Provide statistical information on the reports filed by political committees.

Education about the Law

To promote understanding by the public, the media, and the campaign community and ready access to information about the law, the Commission will:

- ❖ Staff a toll-free telephone number to answer phone inquiries accurately, timely, and professionally, as well as dedicate staff to respond to email and written inquiries;
- ❖ Produce and distribute educational and informational publications;
- ❖ Ensure electronic and paper availability of all FEC publications;
- ❖ Conduct technical workshops on the law throughout the country;
- ❖ Provide policy guidance through the timely release of advisory opinions (AOs);
- ❖ Review and revise regulations to ensure clarity of federal election laws.

4.2 Enforcing the FECA

Overview

The FEC exercises its enforcement authority by investigating potential violations, making appropriate findings, attempting conciliation, and when conciliation is unsuccessful, filing suit in federal district court. The FEC coordinates its enforcement activities with the Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Offices, and state and local agencies. In the last several years, the FEC has dealt with certain kinds of enforcement matters through its Administrative Fine and Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs. The FEC maximizes the effectiveness of its compliance and enforcement programs through technology and management initiatives to more strategically focus available resources. Given the modest size of the Commission's compliance and enforcement programs relative to the FEC's mission requirements, any reduction in resources will have a significant adverse effect on the FEC's ability to meet the most basic program objectives.

Enforcement Program

Other than those addressed by the Administrative Fine and Alternative Dispute Resolution programs, all enforcement matters are handled pursuant to the procedures set forth in 2 U.S.C. §437g. Enforcement matters, referred to as Matters Under Review ("MUR"), are initiated through sworn complaints filed by individuals and entities; referrals from other agencies, both federal and state; self-reports from individuals and entities seeking to cooperate with the Commission; and internal referrals from other offices within the agency. The majority of cases (65 percent since 1995) are the result of complaints filed by individuals outside of the agency.

Over the past five years, the General Counsel has initiated a number of management and organizational changes to increase the quality and efficiency of the Commission's enforcement work, and has implemented policy initiatives to facilitate the processing of MURs. The result is a fairer and more expeditious process, with meaningful penalties and other remedies proportionate to the violation. Among other reforms, the Commission has published a policy statement on the liability of committee treasurers, has eased respondents' access to deposition transcripts, and has revised its standard confidentiality admonition to clarify that witnesses may, if they wish, provide factual information to respondents and their counsel.

In terms of efficiency, cases closed on average 36 percent faster in FY 2006 compared to FY 2003, and the Commission is on pace to resolve by year's end all but a small number of complaints that allege violations pertaining to the 2004 elections that were received either before or within several months after the election. Importantly, the General Counsel has eliminated the practice of dismissing "stale" cases, that is, cases that remained on the docket for lengthy periods without action. From FY 1995 to 2000, the FEC dismissed 21 percent of its cases as "stale." FY 2006 was the third year in a row in which the FEC did not dismiss a single case as stale. Over 85% of the agency's cases are now completed within the two-year election cycle.

4.2 Enforcing the FECA, continued

Enforcement Program, continued

During the past five fiscal years, the General Counsel has steered resources to the most significant violations, leading to a steep increase in civil penalties for serious violators. From FY 1995 to 2000, the OGC negotiated conciliation agreements with respondents providing for civil penalties totaling \$6.82 million. From FY 2001 to date, OGC negotiated conciliation agreements providing for civil penalties totaling more than \$13.92 million, roughly twice the level of the preceding six-year period. In FY 2006 alone, OGC obtained civil penalties amounting to more than \$5.6 million, an increase of more than \$2 million in civil penalties in comparison to the prior highest fiscal year's results. This marks the fifth consecutive year with more than \$1 million in civil penalties. The high civil penalties in FY 2006 include the \$3.8 million civil penalty negotiated in one matter, which is more than four times greater than any civil penalty obtained in Commission history and is more than the aggregate amount obtained in any previous year.

Administrative Fine Program

The Administrative Fine program was established in July 2000 after statutory amendments permitted the Commission to impose civil monetary penalties for violations of certain reporting requirements. The program facilitates more expeditious resolution of relatively straightforward violations, allowing the agency to devote more resources to the more complex cases. In FY 2006, the Administrative Fine program obtained civil penalties amounting to more than \$135 thousand. Since its inception, 1,273 cases have been closed and over \$2.6 million in fines have been assessed through the program.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Program

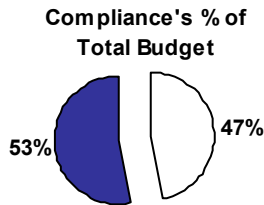
The FEC implemented an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) program in FY 2001 to facilitate settlements outside of the traditional enforcement or litigation processes. The ADR program's primary objective is to enhance the agency's overall effectiveness through more expeditious resolution of enforcement matters with fewer resources required to process complaints and internal referrals. In FY 2006, the ADR program obtained civil penalties amounting to more than \$200 thousand. Since the program's inception, the Commission has formally closed 259 cases, with substantive action taken in 73 percent of those cases.

As previously mentioned, the Commission anticipates that FY 2008 will result in record-level workload based on the growth and complexity of campaign funding, as well as the increased enforcement responsibilities that a Presidential election entails in the year of the election and beyond as complaints and referrals are received and addressed. The requested level of funding is critical to meeting the challenges that these responsibilities will pose.

4.2 Enforcing the FECA, continued

Program Objectives

Approximately half of the agency’s budget is dedicated to enforcing the FECA. Specific compliance and enforcement program objectives include:



- Audit those committees whose reports fail to meet threshold requirements for substantial compliance with the FECA;
- Take appropriate enforcement action with respect to potential violations.

Program Goals

To meet the compliance program objectives, the Commission will seek to achieve the following goals identified as part of its overarching compliance processes.

Audits

- ❖ Conduct 40 to 45 audits “for cause” for the election cycle, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. §438(b), in those cases where committees have failed to meet the threshold requirements for substantial compliance with the FECA and have failed to voluntarily correct errors or omissions on their reports;
- ❖ Perform required Title 26 audits of the Public Financing Fund stemming from the 2008 Presidential campaigns, while sustaining the on-going objectives of audits performed under Title 2.

Enforcement of the FECA

- ❖ Continue progress in shortening case processing times;
- ❖ Close between 75 and 100 cases, with at least 60 percent closed through substantive Commission action;
- ❖ Defend the BCRA and Commission regulations against constitutional and other legal challenges;
- ❖ Initiate civil actions in federal court to enforce the FECA/BCRA in accordance with 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(6) and defend against all actions in federal court challenging the Commission's determinations under the Administrative Fine Program pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(C)(iii) and all actions challenging the disposition of enforcement matters;
- ❖ Maintain and revise, as necessary, the Enforcement Priority System (EPS), a system that is used to prioritize the enforcement docket and assist in determining whether matters are appropriate for ADR.

4.3 Administering the Public Financing of Presidential Elections

Overview

Public funding of Presidential elections means that qualified Presidential candidates may receive federal funds to pay for the qualified expenses of their political campaigns in both the primary and general elections. National political parties also receive federal money for their national nominating conventions.

The Federal Election Commission administered the first public funding program in 1976. Eligible Presidential candidates used federal funds in their primary and general election campaigns, and the major parties used public funds to pay for their nominating conventions. Under the 1971 Revenue Act, the nominee, rather than the party, receives the public funds accumulated through the dollar check-off. The Revenue Act also placed limits on campaign spending by Presidential nominees who receive public money and a ban on all private contributions to them.

In a parallel development, Congress passed the 1971 FECA, which required full, detailed reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures by all federal candidates, including Presidential candidates. The 1974 Amendments to the Federal Election Campaign Act completed the system the FEC now has for public financing of Presidential elections. Those Amendments extended the public funding provisions of the Revenue Act to Presidential primary elections and the Presidential nominating conventions of national parties. In 1976, Congress made minor changes to the public funding provisions and in 1979 and 1984 increased the public funding entitlement and spending limit for national nominating conventions.

Program Components

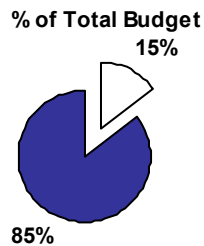
Public funding of Presidential elections has three components:

- Matching funds for qualified Presidential primary candidates;
- Public grants for the Presidential nominees of political parties;
- Public grants to political parties to run their national Presidential nominating conventions.

Administering the public financing program effectively requires significant activity before, during, and after Presidential election cycles. Responsibilities include reviewing matching fund submissions from eligible candidates, certifying eligibility, and auditing of reports.

Program Objectives

Approximately 15 percent of the agency’s budget is dedicated to administering the public financing of Presidential elections. Specific program objectives include:



- Certifying, on a timely basis, the eligibility of Presidential candidates and committees for payments;
- Ensuring timely U.S. Treasury payments to certified committees;
- Promoting public trust by ensuring that all public monies are accounted for and expended in compliance with the FECA.

Program Goals

To reach the objectives described above, the Commission will seek to:

- ❖ Process certifications and transfers of funds timely and accurately;
- ❖ Conduct comprehensive and thorough audits and reviews of campaigns and political parties receiving public funds within the statutory time limits;
- ❖ Vigorously enforce compliance with the statutory requirements governing use of such funds.

5.0 PERFORMANCE BUDGET SUMMARY

As noted in the Executive Summary, the net increase within this FY 2008 request is \$5,071,000, or nine percent.

For personnel costs, the increase is for the mandatory cost-of-living increases and the rising costs of health and other benefits. The single largest increase, in both dollar and percentage terms, is for rent, given the recently re-negotiated lease. Finally, the 6.1 percent requested increase for non-personnel costs other than rental payments to GSA is primarily for targeted IT investments that are described in Appendix B.

Similar to other agencies, the FEC will continue to absorb the costs associated with new mandated requirements, such as those imposed by Presidential Directive HSPD-12, OPM's e-OPF initiative, new security requirements on the protection of sensitive agency data, and annual climate surveys. Again, implementation of these types of initiatives has a disproportionate impact on the FEC's ability to meet program goals than on larger agencies because of the relatively small non-personnel funding allocation.

The following table summarizes the FY 2008 request and the differences from FY 2007.

Table 4.3 – Comparison of FYs 2007 and 2008 Budgets

Category	FY 2007 ¹	FY 2008	Increase	Percent Increase
Personnel	39,814,300	42,498,848	2,684,548	6.7%
Non-Personnel - Rent	3,825,000	5,603,846	1,778,846	46.5%
Non-Personnel - Other	10,513,700	11,121,306	607,606	5.8%
Total	54,153,000	59,224,000	5,071,000	9.4%

1/ Assumes a full year continuing resolution at the FY 2006 funding level.

Despite the efficiency gains identified throughout this document, the FEC believes it is absolutely critical that it be granted the requested level of funding. Anything less will have a direct and measurable impact on the Agency's ability to administer and enforce the FECA, as amended.