

14203 E. Kentucky Road
Independence, MO 64050
March 19, 2005

Mr. C. Toner
Commissioner

Dear Mr. Toner,
The Commission voted to exempt the
McClain Feingold campaign
from the provisions of the McCain-Kollec-Kotelly
decision. Currently, some members of your
panel are appealing that decision, but the vote is
unanimous and cannot currently proceed.

I am writing you about this issue because I support the
provisions of a political website and blog on the
political spectrum, and know there are many
other political persuasions who do the same.
I am also involved with the campaigns of individual
candidates, and consider this to be an issue
of fundamental rights.

The issue is McClain-Feingold's press exemption. While
it only extends to major newspapers, magazines,
and broadcast stations, it is unclear what other media might
be covered. As you well know, both sides in the 2004
election made a great deal of use of the internet. The
use of individual supporters of both parties
through websites, blogs, and mailing lists, to
support candidates. Quite recently, a blogger
was granted House press pass, further blurring
the line between traditional and new media. CNN actually
has daily reports on blogging activity.

Depending on the outcome of this matter, the courts and
in the Congress, the day could come when individuals
are not involved in politics over the internet face

FEC for doing something so simple as
a candidate's website in one of their blog
website is not coordinated in any way

make sense to me. I can put a bumper
I can volunteer to offer rides to the
a political t-shirt, I can write a
of my local paper, all because I
candidate. If personal websites are
- Feingold's provisions, however,
or otherwise, I cannot put a link
website on my own home page. I
on the opposing candidate's platform
forward a message from a candidate

troubling, and an unacceptable
If the FEC takes up this
to side with the many individuals
about the political process to
creating and maintaining personal

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,
Ragan Buckley