

REPORT OF THE AUDIT DIVISION
ON
THE MARY LANDRIEU FOR SENATE
COMMITTEE, INC.

Approved August 21, 1998



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

999 E STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON D.C. 20463

**FINAL AUDIT REPORT
ON
THE MARY LANDRIEU FOR SENATE COMMITTEE, INC.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Committee registered with the Secretary of the Senate on April 18, 1996, as the principal campaign committee for Mary L. Landrieu, Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate from the state of Louisiana. Mrs. Landrieu filed a Statement of Candidacy for the 1996 election on April 1, 1996.

The audit was conducted pursuant to 2 U.S.C. §438(b), which states that the Commission may conduct audits of any political committee whose reports fail to meet the threshold level of compliance set by the Commission.

The findings of the audit were presented to the Committee at an exit conference held at the end of audit fieldwork and later in an interim audit report. The Committee's responses have been included in the findings set forth in this summary.

The following is an overview of the findings contained in the final audit report.

MISSTATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY — 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(1),(2) and (4). The Committee's reported receipts were understated by \$32,866 and its reported disbursements were understated by \$226,950. The reported ending cash on hand at December 31, 1996 was overstated by \$4,884, resulting from the misstatements and an error in the beginning cash on the 1996 Year End Report. The correct ending cash on hand was (\$3,971). The Committee responded by filing amended reports, which materially corrected these misstatements.

APPARENT EXCESSIVE CONTRIBUTIONS — INDIVIDUALS -2 U.S.C. §441a(a)(1)(A). Contributions from 62 individuals were identified that exceeded the contribution limitation by \$41,015. In addition, four registered political action committees and one unregistered organization exceeded the contribution limitations by a total of \$12,000. In response to the interim audit report, the Committee demonstrated that one \$250 contribution was not excessive. The remaining excessive contributions are reported as debts of the Committee.

48 HOUR NOTICES - INDIVIDUAL AND POLITICAL COMMITTEES — 2

U.S.C. §434(a)(6). The Committee did not file the required 48 hour notice for 34 contributions, totaling \$43,500. In addition, the Committee filed inaccurate 48 hour notices for contributions, totaling \$22,000. Except for one PAC, these notices either disclosed the wrong name of the contributor or contained the wrong amount. The Committee stated the errors were inadvertent and the result of inadequate controls.

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS — 2 U.S.C.

§434(b)(3)(A). The occupation and/or name of employer was not disclosed for a material number of the contributions. As recommended in the interim audit report, the Committee either filed Schedules A disclosing the information or where the information could not be obtained, provided copies of letters sent to contributors attempting to gather the necessary information. The amended Schedules A and the letters demonstrate untimely, but material compliance with the regulatory requirements.

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM POLITICAL COMMITTEES — 2

U.S.C. §434(b)(3)(B). Contributions in the amount of \$65,200 were not properly disclosed on the Committee's reports. The errors included contributions itemized under the wrong name, contributions itemized with missing or incorrect addresses, and contributions entries with incorrect aggregate year-to-date totals. In response to the interim audit report, the Committee filed amended disclosure reports which materially corrected the disclosure problems.

DISCLOSURE OF DISBURSEMENTS — 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(5)(A).

A number the disbursement entries on the Committee's disclosure reports were inaccurate or incomplete. The errors involved inadequate or omitted purposes, incomplete, wrong, or omitted addresses and wrong amounts. The Committee filed amended Schedules B which corrected several of the errors. In addition, the Committee described its efforts to obtain the missing information. The amended schedules and other efforts of the Committee to locate the missing information, although untimely, bring it into material compliance with the regulatory requirements.

DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS — 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(8) and 11 CFR

§104.11(a) and (b) Committee obligations totaling \$82,836 were not disclosed on its reports. Of this amount, \$28,568 should have been included on the Committee's Year End 1996 report which did not include debt schedule. The Committee filed amended Schedules D, correcting the errors.



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT DIVISION
ON
THE MARY LANDRIEU FOR SENATE COMMITTEE, INC.**

I. BACKGROUND

A. AUDIT AUTHORITY

This report is based on an audit of The Mary Landrieu For Senate Committee, Inc. (the Committee), undertaken by the Audit Division of the Federal Election Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the Act). The audit was conducted pursuant to Section 438(b) of Title 2 of the United States Code which states, in part, that the Commission may conduct audits and field investigations of any political committee required to file a report under Section 434 of this title. Prior to conducting any audit under this subsection, the Commission shall perform an internal review of reports filed by selected committees to determine if the reports filed by a particular committee meet the threshold requirements for substantial compliance with the Act.

B. AUDIT COVERAGE

The audit covered the period from March 28, 1996 through December 31, 1996. The Committee reported a beginning cash balance of \$0; total receipts for the period of \$2,857,984; total disbursements for the period of \$2,667,872; and an ending cash balance of \$913.¹

C. CAMPAIGN ORGANIZATION

The Committee registered with the Secretary of the Senate on April 18, 1996, as the principal campaign committee for Mary L. Landrieu, Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate from the state of Louisiana. Mrs. Landrieu filed a Statement of Candidacy for the 1996 election on April 1, 1996.

¹ The totals do not foot because the Committee did not carry the ending cash balance of the Post General report to the beginning cash balance of the Year End report (see Finding II A). All amounts in this report have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The Treasurer of the Committee for the period is Thomas C. Delahaye.

To manage its financial activity, the campaign maintained four checking accounts. From these accounts the campaign made approximately 2,100 disbursements. About 7,900 contributions, totaling \$1,892,000, were received from individuals and approximately 300 contributions, totaling \$546,000, were received from political committees and other committees.

D. AUDIT SCOPE AND PROCEDURES

The audit included testing of the following general categories:

1. The receipt of contributions or loans in excess of the statutory limitations (see Finding II.B.);
2. the receipt of contributions from prohibited sources, such as those from corporations or labor organizations;
3. proper disclosure of contributions from individuals, political committees and other entities, to include the itemization of contributions when required, as well as the completeness and accuracy of the information disclosed (see Findings II.C., II.D. and II.E.);
4. proper disclosure of disbursements including the itemization of disbursements when required, as well as the completeness and accuracy of the information disclosed (see Finding II.F.);
5. proper disclosure of campaign debts and obligations (see Finding II.G.);
6. the accuracy of total reported receipts, disbursements and cash balances as compared to campaign bank records (see Finding II.A.);
7. adequate recordkeeping for campaign transactions; and
8. other audit procedures that were deemed necessary in the situation.

Unless specifically discussed below, no material non-compliance was detected. It should be noted that the Commission may pursue any of the matters discussed in this report in an enforcement action.

II. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. MISSTATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

Sections 434(b)(1), (2) and (4) of Title 2 of the United States Code state, in part, that a political committee shall disclose the amount of cash on hand at the beginning of the reporting period and the total amount of all receipts and all disbursements for the reporting period and the calendar year.

The Audit staff's reconciliation of reported financial activity to bank records for the calendar year 1996 revealed the following misstatements:

1. Receipts

The Committee's reported receipts were understated by \$32,866. The components of the misstatement are as follows:

Reported Receipts		\$2,857,984
In-Kind Contributions Not Reported	\$9,357	
Contributions Reported Twice	(3,000)	
PAC Contributions Not Reported	11,250	
PAC Contributions Reported Not Received	(1,200)	
Individual Contributions Not Reported	5,800	
Loan Proceeds Not Reported	7,392	
Miscellaneous	(1,637)	
Reconciling Item	\$4,904	<u>32,866</u>
Correct Reportable Receipts		<u>\$2,890,850</u>

2. Disbursements

The Committee's reported disbursements were understated by \$226,950. The components of the misstatement are as follows:

Reported Disbursements		\$2,667,872
Disbursements Not Reported	\$108,442	
Bank Charges Not Reported	60,975	
Wire Transfers to Vendors Not Reported	54,000	
Payroll Checks Not Reported	8,762	
In-Kind Contributions Not Reported	19,506	
Disbursements Reported, but No Payment Was Issued	(27,303)	
Incorrect Disclosure Amounts	(2,536)	
Miscellaneous	1,472	
Reconciling Amount	<u>\$3,632</u>	<u>226,950</u>
Correct Reportable Disbursements		<u>\$2,894,822</u>

3. Ending Cash On Hand

The reported ending cash on hand at December 31, 1996 was overstated by \$4,884, resulting from the misstatements detailed above and an error in the beginning cash on the 1996 Year End Report. The Committee accountant stated he had to derive the beginning cash balance for the 1996 Year End Report in order to reconcile it to the December 31, 1996 correct ending cash on hand. The correct ending cash on hand was (\$3,971).

At the exit conference, the Treasurer was provided schedules detailing both the bank activity and the noted adjustments.

In the interim audit report, the Audit staff recommended that the Committee file a comprehensive amended report for the calendar year 1996 correcting the misstatements noted above. The Committee complied with the staff's recommendation.

B. APPARENT EXCESSIVE CONTRIBUTIONS

Section 441a(a)(1)(A) of Title 2 of the United States Code states that no person shall make contributions to any candidate and his authorized political committees with respect to any election for Federal office which, in the aggregate, exceed \$1,000. Subsection (b)(2)(ii) of 11 CFR §110.1 explains that *with respect to any election* means that if the contribution is not designated in writing by the contributor for a particular election then the contribution applies to the next election for that Federal office after the contribution is made (emphasis added). A contribution is considered to be made (subsection (6) of this section) when the contributor relinquishes control over the contribution by delivering the contribution to the candidate, the political committee, or an agent of the committee. A mailed contribution is considered made on the date of the postmark.

Section 110.1(b)(5)(i) and (ii) of Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations states, in relevant part, that the treasurer of an authorized political committee may request a written redesignation of a contribution by the contributor for a different election if:

- the contribution was designated in writing for a particular election and the contribution, either on its face or when aggregated with other contributions from the same contributor for the same election, exceeds the limitation on contributions set forth in 11 CFR §110.1(b)(1);
- the contribution was designated in writing for a particular election and the contribution was made after that election and the contribution cannot be accepted under the net debts outstanding provisions of 11 CFR §110.1(b)(3);
- the contribution was not designated in writing for a particular election, and the contribution exceeds the limitation on contributions set forth in 11 CFR §110.1(b)(1); or
- the contribution was not designated in writing for a particular election, and the contribution was received after the date of an election for which there are net debts outstanding on the date the contribution is received.

Further, a contribution shall be considered to be redesignated for another election if the treasurer of the recipient authorized political committee requests that the contributor provide a written redesignation of the contribution and informs the contributor that the contributor may request the refund of the contribution as an alternative to providing a written redesignation and within sixty days from the date of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution, the contributor provides the treasurer with a

...redesignated or the contribution for another election, which is signed by the contributor.

Section 110.1(k) of Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations states, any contribution made by more than one person, except for a contribution made by a partnership, shall include the signature of each contributor on the check, money order, or other negotiable instrument or in a separate writing. Furthermore, a contribution made by more than one person that does not indicate the amount to be attributed to each contributor, the contribution shall be attributed equally to each contributor.

If a contribution to a candidate, either on its face or when aggregated with other contributions from the same contributor, exceeds the limitations on contributions set forth in 11 CFR §110.1(b) or (d), as appropriate, the treasurer may ask the contributor whether the contribution was intended to be a joint contribution by more than one person. A contribution shall be considered to be reattributed to another contributor if the treasurer of the recipient political committee asks the contributor whether the contribution is intended to be a joint contribution by more than one person, and informs the contributor that he or she may request the return of the excessive portion of the contribution if it is not intended to be a joint contribution; and within sixty days from the date of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution, the contributors provide the treasurer with a written reattribution of the contribution, which is signed by each contributor, and which indicates the amount to be attributed to each contributor if equal attribution is not intended.

Section 441a(a)(2)(A) of Title 2 of the United States Code states, that no multicandidate political committee shall make contributions to any candidate and his authorized political committees with respect to any election for Federal office which, in the aggregate, exceed \$5,000.

Section 110.9(a) of Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations states that no candidate or political committee shall accept any contribution or make any expenditure in violation of the provisions of part 110. No officer or employee of a political committee shall accept a contribution made for the benefit or use of a candidate, or make any expenditure on behalf of a candidate, in violation of any limitation imposed on contributions and expenditures under this part 110.

The Audit staff reviewed the Committee's receipts data file, available check copies, deposit tickets, and disclosure reports relating to contributions from individuals and identified contributions from 62 individuals, which exceeded the contribution limitation by \$41,015. Of this amount, \$15,140, from 26 individuals, was excessive for the General Election; the balance (\$25,875) was excessive for the Primary Election. In 45 instances, the Committee apparently reattributed or redesignated contributions without adequate documentation.

In addition, four registered political action committees and one unregistered organization exceeded the contribution limitations by a total of \$12,000. Of this amount, \$11,000, from two PACs and one unregistered committee, was excessive for the General Election; the balance (\$1000), from two PACs, was excessive for the Primary.

A schedule of the excessive contributions was presented to the Treasurer at the exit conference. The Committee's accountant stated he would contact the contributors to obtain redesignations/retribution letters. The Committee was informed that these retribution/redesignation letters would be untimely and that refunds of the contributions would be recommended.

In the interim audit report, the Committee was requested to demonstrate that the contributions noted above were not in excess of the contribution limitation. Absent such evidence, the Committee was to refund the remaining excessive contributions and provide evidence of such funds. If sufficient funds were not available, those contributions requiring refunds would be disclosed as debts on Schedule D (Debts and Obligations) until such time as funds became available.

In response to the interim audit report, the Committee demonstrated that one contribution, totaling \$250, was not excessive.² The remaining excessive contributions, totaling \$40,765, were itemized on Schedule D (Debts and Obligations).

In addition to itemizing the excessive contributors as debts, the Committee stated that:

[the] Committee in no way purposely attempted to evade campaign contribution limits. Rather, we maintain and the record supports that the excessive contributions... were the simple result of bookkeeping errors. To support this conclusion, we note that the excessive contributions identified by the audit total \$52,765 amounting to 2% of total contributions received by the Committee.

C. CONTRIBUTIONS SUBJECT TO 48 HOUR DISCLOSURE NOTICES

Section 434(a)(6) of Title 2 of the United States Code requires that each treasurer of the principal campaign committee of a candidate shall notify the Clerk, the Secretary, or the Commission, and the Secretary of State, as appropriate, in writing, of any contribution of \$1,000 or more received by any authorized committee of such candidate after the 20th day, but more than 48 hours before, any election. This

² This contribution check was made out to the ReElect Committee (for the 2002 election), but was inadvertently deposited in this Committee's bank account. On December 23, 1997, the Committee transferred funds to the ReElect Committee to compensate for the check being deposited in the wrong account

notification shall be made within 48 hours after the receipt of such contribution and shall include the name of the candidate and the office sought by the candidate, the identification of the contributor, and the date of receipt and the amount of the contribution. The notification required under this paragraph shall be in addition to all other reporting requirements under this Act.

The Audit staff reviewed all contributions received by the Committee within two and twenty days of the Primary Election (September 2, 1996 to September 18, 1996) and the General Election (October 17, 1996 to November 2, 1996) to identify all contributions of \$1,000 or more. The Audit staff determined the Committee did not file the required 48 hour notice for 34 contributions, totaling \$43,500.

In addition, the Committee failed to correctly file 48 hour notices for contributions totaling \$22,000 received from both individuals and PACs. Except for one PAC, these notices either disclosed the wrong name of the contributor or contained the wrong amount.

At the exit conference, the Committee was provided with a schedule of these items. No explanation was provided by the Committee.

In the interim audit report, the Audit staff recommended the Committee submit evidence that all required 48 notices were filed or submit any written comments it believes relevant to this issue.

In its response the committee conceded it had failed to file the notices noted above. The Committee stated in relevant part:

[the] errors were inadvertent and the result of inadequate internal controls which so often plagued harried campaigns.

The error noted by the audit disclosed that the Committee failed to include in the 48 hour reports 43 contributions, totaling \$64,000. In light of total campaign contributions of \$2,541,114, we respectfully submit that the 48 hour reporting lapse while regrettable, are not material.

D. DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS

Section 434(b)(3)(A) of Title 2 of the United States Code requires, in part, a political committee to report the identification of each person who makes a contribution to the committee in an aggregate amount or value in excess of \$200 per calendar year together with the date and amount of any such contribution.

Section 431(13)(A) of Title 2 of the United States Code defines the term "identification" to be, in the case of any individual, the name, the mailing address, and the occupation of such individual, as well as the name of his or her employer.

Sections 104.7(a) and (b) of Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations states, in part, that when the treasurer of a political committee shows that best efforts have been used to obtain, maintain, and submit the information required by the Act for the political committee, any report of such committee shall be considered in compliance with the Act. With regard to reporting the identification of each person whose contributions(s) to the political committee and its affiliated committees aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year, the treasurer will only be deemed to have exercised best efforts to obtain, maintain and report the required information if: (1) All written solicitations for contributions include a clear request for the contributor's full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer, and include the following statement: "Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year;" and (2) For each contribution received aggregating in excess of \$200 per calendar year which lacks required contributor information, the treasurer makes at least one effort after the receipt of the contribution to obtain the missing information. Such effort shall consist of either a written request sent to the contributor or an oral request to the contributor documented in writing. The written or oral request must be made no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the contribution. The written or oral request shall not include material on any other subject or any additional solicitation, except that it may include language solely thanking the contributor for the contribution.

The Audit staff reviewed contributions from individuals on a sample basis and determined that the occupation and/or name of employer was not disclosed as required for a material number of the contributions requiring itemization and disclosure on the Committee's reports. Some of the information was available in the Committee's records, but was not disclosed. A sample form requesting this information was sent to the Commission in response to an inquiry from the Reports Analysis Division; however, the Committee could not produce evidence that they used the form. Committee records contained very little evidence of attempts to obtain occupation or name of employer after receipt of the contribution.

At the exit conference, the Audit staff informed the Committee of the problem and advised them to document all future attempts to obtain any required information. The Treasurer concurred with our recommendation and agreed to file any necessary amended reports. The Committee's accountant stated that efforts were being made to obtain the missing information.

In the interim audit report, the Audit staff recommended that the Committee file amended Schedules A to disclose the necessary occupation and name of employer information or provide evidence of contacts with contributors to obtain the missing information.

In response to the interim audit report, the Committee filed Schedules A disclosing the information that was either in Committee's records or had been obtained in response to the audit. Where the information could not be obtained, the Committee submitted copies of letters sent to contributors attempting to gather the necessary information. The amended Schedules A and the letters requesting occupation and name of employer information demonstrate untimely, but material compliance with the regulatory requirements.

E. REPORTING OF RECEIPTS FROM POLITICAL COMMITTEES

Sections 434(b)(2)(D) and (b)(3)(B) of Title 2 of the United States Code state that each report under this section shall disclose for the reporting period and calendar year the total amount of all contributions from other political committees and the identification of each political committee which makes a contribution to the reporting committee during the reporting period, together with the date and amount of any such contribution.

The Audit staff reviewed receipts, totaling \$544,772, from political committees and unregistered organizations. From this review, contributions in the amount of \$65,200 were identified that were not properly disclosed on the Committee's reports. Included were contributions itemized under the wrong name, and contributions itemized with missing or incorrect addresses, or incorrect aggregate year-to-date totals.

A schedule of the disclosure errors was presented to the Treasurer at the exit conference. The Committee did not comment.

In the interim audit report the Audit staff recommended the Committee file amended Schedules A disclosing the required information. The Committee filed the requested schedules which materially corrected the errors and omissions.

F. DISCLOSURE OF DISBURSEMENTS

Section 434(b)(5)(A) of Title 2 of the United States Codes states, in part, that each report under this section shall disclose the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure in an aggregate amount or value in excess of \$200 within the calendar year is made by the reporting committee to meet a candidate operating expense, together with the date, amount, and purpose of such operating expenditure.

Section 104.7(a) of Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulation states, when the treasurer of a political committee shows that best efforts have been used to obtain, maintain and submit the information required by the Act for the political committee, any report of such committee shall be considered in compliance with the Act.

Section 104.3(b)(3)(i)(A) and (B) of Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulation states, in part, that purpose means a brief statement or description of why the

disbursement was made. Examples of statements or descriptions which meet the requirements include the following: dinner expenses, media, salary, polling, travel, party fees, phone banks, travel expense reimbursement, and catering costs. However, statements or descriptions such as advance, election day expenses, other expenses, expenses, expense reimbursement, miscellaneous, outside services, get-out-the-vote, and voter registration would not meet the requirements of 11 CFR 104.3(b)(3) for the reporting purpose of an expenditure.

The Committee's disbursements itemized on Schedules B were tested to determine if all required information had been included and to evaluate the accuracy of the information. The test established that the Schedules were deficient. The errors involved inadequate or omitted purposes; incomplete, wrong, or omitted addresses; and wrong amounts.

At the exit conference, the Committee was informed of these errors, but offered no comment.

In the interim audit report, the Audit staff recommended that the Committee file amended Schedules B, disclosing the required information.

In the response to the interim audit report, the Committee filed amended Schedules B which corrected several of the errors noted above. In addition, the Committee described its efforts to obtain the missing/inadequate information. These efforts consisted of looking in the telephone book and on the Internet. The amended schedules and other efforts of the Committee to locate the missing information, although untimely, bring it into material compliance with the regulatory requirements.

G. DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Section 434(b)(8) of Title 2 of the United States Code, states, in part, that each report filed under this section shall disclose the amount and nature of outstanding debts and obligations owed by a political committee.

Sections 104.11(a) and (b) of Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations state, in part, that debts and obligations owed by or to a political committee which remain outstanding shall be continuously reported until extinguished. These debts and obligations shall be reported on separate schedules together with a statement explaining the circumstances and conditions under which each debt and obligation was incurred or extinguished. A debt or obligation, the amount of which is \$500 or less, shall be reported as of the time payment is made or not later than 60 days after such obligation is incurred, whichever comes first. A debt or obligation which is over \$500 shall be reported as of the date on which the debt or obligation is incurred, except that any obligation incurred for rent, salary, or other regularly reoccurring administrative expense shall not be reported as a debt before the payment due date.

The Audit staff reviewed disbursements to determine if the Committee correctly reported debts and obligations owed to vendors. The review identified obligations totaling \$82,836 (July 15 Quarterly through Year-end, only), which the Committee did not disclose. Of this amount, \$28,568 should have been included on the Committee's Year End Report which did not include a Schedule D (Debts and Obligations).

The Committee also reported incorrect beginning balances, amounts incurred, payments made and ending balances for a number of obligations beginning with the July 15 Quarterly Report through the Post General Report. Debts and obligations with reported ending balances of \$87,552 were incorrectly reported.

At the exit conference the Committee was provided with schedules detailing the issues discussed above, but offered no comment.

In the interim audit report, the staff recommended that the Committee file amended Schedules D for the July 15 Quarterly Report through the Year End Report to correctly disclose outstanding obligations.

In response to this recommendation, the Committee filed amended Schedules D, correcting all disclosure errors for the noted vendors.



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

August 24, 1998

Mr. Thomas Delahaye, Treasurer
The Mary Landrieu For Senate Committee, Inc.
58156 Court Street
Plaquemine, LA 70764

Dear Mr. Delahaye:

Attached please find the Report of the Audit Division on The Mary Landrieu For Senate Committee, Inc.. The Commission approved the report on August 21, 1998.

The Commission approved Final Audit Report will be placed on the public record on August 31, 1998. Should you have any questions regarding the public release of the report, please contact the Commission's Press Office at (202) 694-1220. Any questions you have related to matters covered during the audit or in the report should be directed to Erica D Holder or Russ Bruner of the Audit Division at (202) 694-1200 or toll free at (800) 424-9530.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Costa", written over a faint, illegible background.

Robert J. Costa
Assistant Staff Director
Audit Division

Attachment as stated

CHRONOLOGY

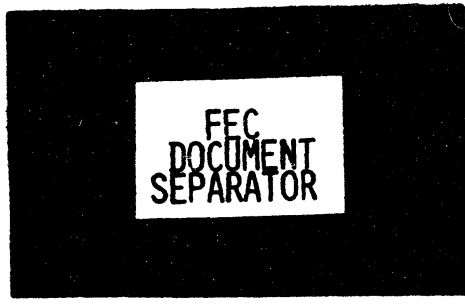
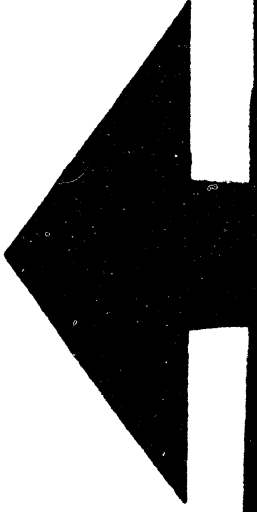
THE MARY LANDRIEU FOR SENATE COMMITTEE, INC.

Audit Fieldwork	08/04/97-10/22/97
Interim Audit Report to the Committee	04/06/98
Response Received to the Exit Conference Memorandum	06/26/98
Audit Report Approved	08/21/98

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