STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
STATE OF ILLINOIS

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February 3, 2011

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Dear Political Committee:

The recently amended campaign disclosure law requires that each political committee designate on a D-1 Statement of Organization, what type of committee it is. The committee types under the previous law; state, local, and state and local, no longer apply. Under the recently amended law there are now four types of political committees; (1) candidate political committee, (2) political action committee, (3) political party committee, and (4) ballot initiative committee. Your committee's D-1 Statement of Organization containing the new designation was required to have been filed with the Board on or before December 31, 2010. To date, your committee has not yet filed the amended D-1 containing such designation.

In order to assist you, and based on the most current information the State Board of Elections has available, I have designated your political committee as a Political Party committee. If you believe this is not the correct designation, please contact me at 312-814-6448 or jmeyer@elections.il.gov no later than March 4, 2011. If I do not hear from you, this designation will become part of your file and it will determine what contribution limits and election cycle to which this committee must adhere.

See the attachment for assistance in making your political committee determination. For information regarding the election cycle and contribution limits that will apply to your committee, refer to our website, www.elections.il.gov.

Jason Meyer
Division of Campaign Disclosure
State Board of Elections

Determining Committee Type

Candidate Political Committee

"Candidate political committee" means the candidate himself or herself or any natural person, trust, partnership, corporation, or other organization or group of persons designated by the candidate that accepts contributions, or make expenditures during any 12-month period in an aggregate amount exceeding $3,000 on behalf of the candidate.

The candidate's name must be included in the name of the political committee.

No candidate or public official may maintain more than one political committee for each office held or sought.

A candidate may establish a separate committee for each public office. If he chooses to establish a separate committee for each office, the name of the each committee shall also include the office for which it is formed.

A candidate may use one committee to support the candidate for multiple offices at different elections. If he chooses to use one committee for multiple offices, he must designate the election cycle for purposes of contribution limits and reporting requirements.

Only a candidate committee may include the name of the candidate in its name.

If a candidate is currently maintaining more than one committee for a single office, he must file a final report for all but one of the committees prior to January 1, 2011.

Political Party Committee

"Political party committee" means the State central committee of a political party, a county central committee of a political party, a legislative caucus committee, or a committee formed by a ward or township committeeman of a political party.

The name of the committee must include the name of the political party.

A state central committee, a county central committee, a legislative caucus committee, and a committee formed by a ward or township committeeman, are political party committees; and, as such, may maintain or establish only one political party committee.

A legislative caucus committee is a committee established to elect candidates to the General Assembly by the President of the Senate, Minority Leader of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, or a committee established by 5 or more members of the same caucus of the Senate or 10 or more members of the House.

Political Action Committee

"Political action committee" means any natural person, trust, partnership, committee, association, corporation, or other organization or group of persons, other than a candidate, political party, candidate political committee, or political party committee, that accept contributions or makes expenditures during any 12-month period in an aggregate amount exceeding $3,000 on behalf of or in opposition to a candidate or candidate for public office, or that makes electioneering communications during any 12-month period in an aggregate amount exceeding $3,000 related to any candidate or candidates for public office.

The name of a political action committee shall include the name of the entity forming the committee.

No entity may maintain or establish more than one political action committee.

Ballot Initiative Committee

"Ballot initiative committee" means any natural person, trust, partnership, committee, association, corporation, or other organization or group of persons that accepts contributions or makes expenditures during any 12-month period in an aggregate amount exceeding $3,000 in support of or in opposition to any question of public policy to be submitted to the electors, or that makes electioneering communications during any 12-month period in an aggregate amount exceeding $3,000 related to any question of public policy to be submitted to the voters.

The name of a ballot initiative committee must include words describing the question of public policy and whether the group supports or opposes the question on the ballot.