



**FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

**May 7, 2001**

**Paul J. Bedinghaus, Treasurer  
Republican Party of Florida  
420 E. Jefferson Street  
P.O. Box 311  
Tallahassee, FL 32301**

**RE: MUR 5041**

**Dear Mr. Bedinghaus:**

In the ordinary course of exercising its supervisory responsibilities, the Commission examined a sua sponte submission received from Wuesthoff Memorial Hospital, Inc. ("Wuesthoff"), which states that it made several prohibited corporate contributions to federal committees in the names of officers and employees of the corporation. Based on the information provided by Wuesthoff, the Commission found reason to believe that three officers of the corporation were either advanced or reimbursed funds that they contributed to federal committees in violation of 2 U.S.C. §§ 441b and 441f, and that six other employees were also reimbursed with such funds in violation of § 441f. The Commission subsequently approved conciliation agreements with the corporation and the three officers in settlement of the matter. The following contributions totaling \$12,000 were identified by the submission as made by Wuesthoff employees on June 24, 1998 to the Republican Party of Florida:

Lee Barnhart	\$1,000
Josef Bogdan	\$500
Rebecca Colker	\$500
Rebecca Colker	\$500
Brian Collins	\$500
Chris Finton	\$1,000
Chris Finton	\$1,000
Terence Murphy	\$5,000
Emily Rothenberger	\$500
Kathleen Weldon	\$500
Bernard Van Someren	\$1,000

Federal law prohibits making corporate contributions in connection with federal elections, or the knowing acceptance of such contributions. 2 U.S.C. §441b(a). Further, 2 U.S.C. § 441f prohibits making any contributions in the name of another, or the knowing acceptance of such contributions. In light of the impermissible nature of the above-referenced contributions, the Commission instructs you to disgorge an equivalent amount to the United States Treasury, care of

Mr. Paul J. Bedinghaus

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the Federal Election Commission, within 30 days of your receipt of this letter. The Commission is providing this notice for your information, and does not consider you a respondent in this matter.

If you have any questions, please contact Erica H. McMahon, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lois G. Lerner  
Acting General Counsel

BY:

  
Abigail A. Shaine  
Acting Associate General Counsel

22-04-405-3957