



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

June 11, 1999

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Ted Maness, III, Executive Director
National Republican Congressional Committee
320 First Street, SE
Washington, D.C. 20003

RE: MUR 4829

Dear Mr. Maness:

On October 28, 1998, the Federal Election Commission received your complaint alleging certain violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act").

After considering the circumstances of this matter, the Commission has determined to exercise its prosecutorial discretion and to take no action against the respondents. See attached narrative. Accordingly, the Commission closed its file in this matter on June 10, 1999. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days.

The Act allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Andrew Turley".

F. Andrew Turley
Supervisory Attorney
Central Enforcement Docket

Attachment
Narrative

MUR 4829
JIM LAWING

Ted Maness, Executive Director of the National Republican Congressional Committee, alleges that Jim Lawing failed to file Statements of Candidacy or Organization with the Commission, yet stated on his web site that he had raised \$29,971 in contributions as of October 21, 1998. Mr. Maness further alleges that Mr. Lawing failed to report any expenditures for rent, advertising, or postage, even though he had apparently either disbursed money for these expenses or received them as in-kind contributions from his law office. Mr. Lawing lost the 1998 General election for Kansas' 4th congressional district with 38% of the vote to Todd Tiahrt's 59%.

Mr. Lawing responds that he sent letters to both the FEC and the Kansas Secretary of State detailing his campaign contributions and expenditures on July 27, 1998, two days after he reports he reached the \$5,000 receipt/expenditure threshold. He believed at the time that that filing was sufficient. However, he subsequently learned that the FEC did not receive his original letter; he retransmitted it in September. Mr. Lawing also asserts that he filed a second report that, though mailed in a timely manner, never reached the FEC. Mr. Lawing maintains that there were no rent, telephone, or postage charges to report on the July 27th filing because the campaign used Lawing's residence as its headquarters, and the candidate did not reimburse himself for expenditures. He also states that the campaign never operated from his law office.

This matter is less significant relative to other matters pending before the Commission.