

John E. Delap, III
2227 Icarus Drive
Henderson, NV 89014

October 30, 1998

Federal Election Commission
Attention: Office of General Counsel
999 E Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20463

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to request a formal inquiry into the campaign fundraising activities of the *Friends of Don Chairez for Congress* campaign committee (FEC ID# C00337352). My analysis of his FEC reports shows \$27,000 in questionable campaign contributions.

Don Chairez has accepted campaign contributions for the primary election after the September 1st primary election. I understand that FEC rules allow for the receipt of primary contributions after the primary to retire debt incurred by the committee during the primary. However, Chairez reported zero debt on his FEC reports to date. In a recent *Las Vegas Sun* article (copy included) Chairez's campaign manager claimed \$36,000 in primary debt. This is contrary to any of Chairez's filings.

In Chairez's October Quarterly report he accepted \$1750 for a single individual on September 11, 1998, Chairez listed this as two separate contributions with \$1000 coded as primary and the remainder coded as general. Further, in the October report, Chairez accepted \$10,000 from both the Monday Morning PAC and the NFIB Safe Trust on September 17th, and September 24th respectively. Acceptance of these PAC contributions exceeds the federal limit by \$5000 each. I ask you to request that Chairez return these contributions as they were accepted in violation of FEC rules. Chairez also accepted \$1000 from the Henderson Police Officers Association. This organization is not registered with the FEC as a PAC.

In Chairez's Pre-general report Chairez received at least eight, \$2000 contributions, coding half as general and half as primary. In recent 48-hour notices, Chairez has accepted five, \$2000 individual contributions well after the primary. In addition, Chairez received three contributions from local candidate committees, two state assembly committees, and the county recorder's committee. Each of these committees are not regulated by the FEC and are allowed to receive soft money contributions. I ask you to

request documentation from Chairez indicating that these committees have enough campaign funds from federally permissible sources to cover these contributions. I also ask the commission to consider both what is listed and what is not. Chairez has shown NO expenditure for office space for his campaign headquarters. He has paid for phones and office supplies, but no expenditure for rent is listed. This could be a potentially huge illegal corporate contribution. I ask the commission to require Chairez to provide proof of who is paying for his headquarters.

I have included an itemization of Chairez's questionable contributions with numerical references to his own FEC reports. Also, I have included copies of recent newspaper articles regarding this very subject.

As a fundraiser, I work with FEC regulation everyday, I know the rules and Don Chairez knows the rules. To date Chairez has returned \$1050 in contributions, which exceeded the federal limits. FEC regulations are logical, reasonable, and easy to follow. Ignorance is NOT a valid excuse.

I feel that the fundraising practices of the *Friends of Don Chairez for Congress* committee is abhorrent. Congress has passed laws establishing the FEC to write regulations and regulate federal campaigns to level the playing field so that issues and character, not mere money, is what gets people elected. I can't believe a former judge would show such reckless disregard for federal law. Even more infuriating is that such a man wants to be a federal legislator.

I urge the commission to carefully and thoroughly investigate the *Friends of Don Chairez for Congress* committee. I believe that the several items I have listed are only the tip of the proverbial iceberg.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me directly at .

Sincerely,


John E. Delap, III

State of Nevada
County of Clark

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the 30th day of October, 1998 by John Delap.




(signature of notarial officer)

My commission expires: 1/12/01