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July 25, 1975

Doris F. Cranmer, Campaign Treasurer Stafford Township Republican Campaign Committee P.O. Box 641 Manahawkin, New Jersey 08050

LAW EMPONSENCE

Re: The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973, as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act") Your Letter Dated June 2, 1975 Opinion #(0-11-75)

Dear Mrs. Cranmer:

Your letter dated June 2, 1975 to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), including a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for reply.

The Commission is not empowered to interpret or enforce all of the provisions of Title 19 of the Statutes of New Jersey relating to elections. The Commission is an agency created by the disclosure law, which is only a part of the Election Law of the State of New Jersey and the power of the Commission to give opinions is limited to that disclosure law. I understand from your letter that the enclosed piece of material has not in fact to your knowledge been sent during the 1975 campaign, but is a sample of similar kind of material which was used during a 1974 campaign.

Such material is political, and assuming that such or similar material were used during the 1975 election, the candidate would be required to report the expenditure in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the regulations. So long as such reporting was accurately made the Commission would have no further authority. The Commission is, however, required to forward to law enforcement officers evidence of the violation of other laws, such as the use of municipal stationery or of the time of municipal employees for political

Doris F. Cranmer July 25, 1975 purposes. The use of a letter purporting to be the act of a municipal governing body for political purposes would be an act which would require the Commission to forward the material to the appropriate law enforcement agency for determination by that agency as to whether a violation of a law existed. Yours very truly, Edward J. Farrell Legal Counsel