

0-18-76

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT  
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November 15, 1976  
ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT  
COMMISSION

Mr. Richard A. Ellison  
43 Cambridge Drive  
Jackson, New Jersey 08527

Re: The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures  
Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973, as  
Amended and Supplemented ("the Act")  
Your Recent Letter  
Opinion #(0-18-76)

Dear Mr. Ellison:

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

Activities by a political party committee or continuing  
or ongoing organization of the kind described in your letter  
which do not directly involve expenditures in aid or furtherance  
of the candidacy of a specific candidate do not by themselves  
constitute such an organization a political committee with  
respect to such candidates, and therefore do not by themselves  
require the filing of pre-election and post-election reports  
with respect to the candidacy of such candidates.

You should be aware, however, that some kinds of activity  
by an organization such as yours might make the organization  
a political committee on behalf of a candidate. Examples of  
such activities would be the conducting of testimonial  
dinnners or other fundraising or similar affairs during a  
time when the candidates to be benefited by the proceeds of  
those affairs are known, or where the affair is in honor of  
a specific person or otherwise related, by proximity to the  
election or otherwise, to a specific person who thereafter  
becomes a candidate. In such circumstances your organization  
might well become a political committee for such candidate  
or candidates with the obligation of filing pre-election and  
post-election reports. No such facts appear in your letter,  
and on the basis of the facts set forth in your letter there

Mr. Richard A. Ellison

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would be no requirement that your committee file pre-election and post-election reports during the 1976 primary or general election.

In any event, as a political organization of a continuing nature, your organization would have the obligation of filing an annual report and the obligation of naming a treasurer and depository on or before January 31st of each year.

Yours very truly,



Edward J. Farrell  
Legal Counsel

EJF:ja