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September 24, 1976

Stephen J. Wilhelm, Treasurer 30 Stonehedge Drive Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865

> The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973, as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act") Your Letter Dated May 31, 1976 Opinion #(0-20-76)

Dear Mr. Wilhelm:

Your letter dated May 31, 1976 to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), including a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for reply.

The Act requires record keeping sufficient in detail and accuracy as to provide a basis for demonstrating that there has been compliance with all the provisions of the Act, for example, the provision that requires the reporting of the name, address and amount of contribution of every person if his contribution exceeds \$100.00.

Section 3j. of the Act defines a "public solicitation" as one in which members of the general public are personally solicited for cash contributions not exceeding \$10.00 from each person so solicited and contributed on the spot by the person so solicited. With the exception of such public solicitation, permitted under section 19 of the Act, your records must permit identification of contributors, although only contributions in excess of \$100.00 need be reported. In this connection, your attention is invited to Section 20 of the Act which prohibits anonymous contributions (other than such public solicitations) and therefore places upon the committee the obligation of knowing the contributors.

In addition, please note the requirements imposed by Section 19 upon a person conducting a public solicitation.

Yours very truly,

Edward J. Farrell

Legal Counsel