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September 20, 1976

Mr. Charles J. Petrics, Treasurer Yerich, Flynn & Koptic Committee 85 Pinewood Road Toms River, New Jersey 08753

Re: The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973 as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act") Your Letter Dated July 12, 1976 Opinion No. 0-23-76

Dear Mr. Petrics:

Your letter dated July 12, 1976, to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission), including a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for reply.

In response to your letter please be advised as follows:

- 1. A county political party committee may not contribute to the candidacy of any candidate in connection with the primary.
- 2. A county political party committee may not make contributions after the date of a primary election to help pay for expenses incurred before the primary. The applicable statutory language is contained in the final sentence of Section 11 of the Act, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-11 reading as follows:

"Any state, county or municipal committee of any political party, after a primary election, but not prior thereto, may receive and expend funds to be spent in furtherance and in aid of the candidacy of all of the candidates of such party, or of any one or more of such candidates, in accordance with the provisions of this Act."

The Commission regards the foregoing language as establish a legislative intent that funds may be spent by a political

party committee only with respect to the general election candidacy of the candidates of that party.

Where a report is in error, the Commission generally will accept a letter correction, except that if the use of a letter would unduly confuse or complicate the report for anyone reading it, then the Commission may require the filing of a complete amended report. For information as to any specific report, it is suggested that you contact the office of the Executive Director.

Yours very truly,

Edward J. Farrell Legal Counsel

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