

Federal Election Commission

§ 300.65

office may attend, speak, or be a featured guest at a fundraising event for a State, district, or local committee of a political party, including but not limited to a fundraising event at which Levin funds are raised, or at which non-Federal funds are raised. In light of the foregoing:

(a) State, district, or local committees of a political party may advertise, announce or otherwise publicize that a Federal candidate or individual holding Federal office will attend, speak, or be a featured guest at a fundraising event, including, but not limited to, publicizing such appearance in pre-event invitation materials and in other party committee communications; and

(b) Candidates and individuals holding Federal office may speak at such events without restriction or regulation.

§ 300.65 Exceptions for certain tax-exempt organizations (2 U.S.C. 441i(e)(1) and (4)).

A Federal candidate, an individual holding Federal office, and an individual agent acting on behalf of either may make the following solicitations of funds on behalf of any organization described in 26 U.S.C. 501(c) and exempt from taxation under 26 U.S.C. 501(a), or an organization that has submitted an application for determination of tax-exempt status under 26 U.S.C. 501(c):

(a) *General solicitations.* A Federal candidate, an individual holding Federal office or an individual agent acting on behalf of either, may make a general solicitation of funds, without regard to source or amount limitation, if:

(1) The organization does not engage in activities in connection with an election, including any activity described in paragraph (c) of this section; or

(2)(i) The organization conducts activities in connection with an election, but the organization's principal purpose is not to conduct election activities or any activity described in paragraph (c) of this section; and

(ii) The solicitation is not to obtain funds for activities in connection with an election or any activity described in paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) *Specific solicitations.* A Federal candidate, an individual holding Federal office, or an individual agent acting on behalf of either, may make a solicitation explicitly to obtain funds for any activity described in paragraph (c) of this section or for an organization whose principal purpose is to conduct that activity, if:

(1) The solicitation is made only to individuals; and

(2) The amount solicited from any individual does not exceed \$20,000 during any calendar year.

(c) *Voter registration, voter identification, get-out-the-vote activity and generic campaign activity.* This section applies to only the following types of Federal election activity:

(1) Voter registration activity, as described in 11 CFR 100.24(a)(2), during the period that begins on the date that is 120 days before the date a regularly scheduled Federal election is held and ends on the date of the election; or

(2) The following activities conducted in connection with an election in which one or more Federal candidates appear on the ballot (see 11 CFR 100.24(a)(1)), regardless of whether one or more State candidates also appears on the ballot:

(i) Voter identification as described in 11 CFR 100.24(a)(4);

(ii) Get-out-the-vote activity as described in 11 CFR 100.24(a)(3); or

(iii) Generic campaign activity as defined in 11 CFR 100.25.

(d) *Prohibited solicitations.* A Federal candidate, an individual holding Federal office, and an individual who is an agent acting on behalf of either, must not make any solicitation on behalf of any organization described in 26 U.S.C. 501(c) and exempt from taxation under 26 U.S.C. 501(a), or an organization that has submitted an application for determination of tax-exempt status under 26 U.S.C. 501(c) for any election activity other than a Federal election activity as described in paragraph (c) of this section.

(e) *Safe Harbor.* In determining whether a 501(c) organization is one whose principal purpose is to conduct election activities, including activity described in paragraph (c) of this section, a Federal candidate, an individual holding Federal office, or an individual

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agent acting on behalf of either may obtain and rely upon a certification from the organization that satisfies the following criteria:

(1) The certification is a signed written statement by an officer or other authorized representative of the organization with knowledge of the organization's activities;

(2) The certification states that the organization's principal purpose is not to conduct election activities, including election activities described in paragraphs (c) of this section.

(3) The certification states that the organization does not intend to pay debts incurred from the making of expenditures or disbursements in connection with an election for Federal office (including for Federal election activity) in a prior election cycle.

(f) If a Federal candidate, an individual holding Federal office, or an individual agent acting on behalf of either has actual knowledge that the certification is false, the certification may not be relied upon.

Subpart E—State and Local Candidates

§ 300.70 Scope (2 U.S.C. 441i(f)(1)).

This subpart applies to any candidate for State or local office, individual holding State or local office, or an agent acting on behalf of any such candidate or individual. For example, this subpart applies to an individual holding Federal office who is a candidate for State or local office. This subpart does not apply to an association or similar group of candidates for State or local office or of individuals holding State or local office.

§ 300.71 Federal funds required for certain public communications (2 U.S.C. 441i(f)(1)).

No individual described in 11 CFR 300.70 shall spend any funds for a public communication that refers to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office (regardless of whether a candidate for State or local office is also mentioned or identified), and that promotes or supports any candidate for that Federal office, or attacks or opposes any candidate for that Federal office (regardless of whether the communication

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expressly advocates a vote for or against a candidate) unless the funds consist of Federal funds that are subject to the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of the Act. See definition of *public communication* at 11 CFR 100.26

§ 300.72 Federal funds not required for certain communications (2 U.S.C. 441i(f)(2)).

The requirements of section 11 CFR 300.71 shall not apply if the public communication is in connection with an election for State or local office, and refers to one or more candidates for State or local office or to a State or local officeholder but does not promote, support, attack, or oppose any candidate for Federal office.

PART 400—INCREASED LIMITS FOR CANDIDATES OPPOSING SELF-FINANCED CANDIDATES

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