

Federal Election Commission

§ 9008.9

expenditure and shall not count against the expenditure limitations of this section.

(ii) The payment by the national committee of compensation to any individual for legal and accounting services rendered to or on behalf of the national committee in connection with the presidential nominating convention or convention-related activities shall not be considered an expenditure and shall not count against the expenditure limitations of this section provided that:

(A) The legal and accounting services relate solely to compliance with the Federal Election Campaign Act (2 U.S.C. 431, et seq.) and the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act (26 U.S.C. Chapter 95); and

(B) The contributions raised to pay for the legal and accounting services comply with the limitations and prohibitions of 11 CFR parts 110, 114 and 115. These contributions, when aggregated with other contributions from the same contributor to the political committees established and maintained by the national political party, shall not exceed \$20,000 per person, and \$15,000 per multicandidate political committee in any calendar year.

(iii) The convention committee shall report contributions received to pay for legal and accounting services on a separate Schedule A, and shall report payments for legal and accounting services on a separate Schedule B, attached to its reports.

(5) *Computerized information.* Payments to defray the costs of producing, delivering and explaining the computerized information and materials provided pursuant to 11 CFR 9008.10(h), and explaining the operation of the computer system's software, shall not be considered expenditures and shall not count against the expenditure limitations of this section, provided that the contributions raised to pay these expenses comply with the limitations and prohibitions of 11 CFR parts 110, 114 and 115.

§ 9008.9 Receipt of goods and services from commercial vendors.

Commercial vendors may sell, lease, rent or provide their goods or services to the national committee with respect

to a presidential nominating convention at reduced or discounted rates, or at no charge, provided that the requirements of either paragraph (a), paragraph (b), or paragraph (c) of this section are met. For purposes of this section, *commercial vendor* shall have the same meaning as provided in 11 CFR 116.1(c).

(a) *Standard reductions or discounts.* A commercial vendor may provide reductions or discounts in the ordinary course of business. A reduction or discount shall be considered in the ordinary course of business if the commercial vendor has an established practice of providing the same reductions or discounts for the same amount of its goods or services to non-political clients, or if the reduction or discount is consistent with established practice in the commercial vendor's trade or industry. Examples of reductions or discounts made in the ordinary course of business include standard volume discounts and reduced rates for corporate, governmental or preferred customers. Reductions or discounts provided under paragraph (a) of this section need not be reported.

(b) *Items provided for promotional consideration.*

(1) A commercial vendor may provide goods or services in exchange for promotional consideration provided that doing so is in the ordinary course of business.

(2) The provision of goods or services shall be considered in the ordinary course of business under this paragraph:

(i) If the commercial vendor has an established practice of providing goods or services on a similar scale and on similar terms to non-political clients, or

(ii) If the terms and conditions under which the goods or services are provided are consistent with established practice in the commercial vendor's trade or industry in similar circumstances.

(3) In all cases, the value of the goods or services provided shall not exceed the commercial benefit reasonably expected to be derived from the unique promotional opportunity presented by the national nominating convention.

(4) The convention committee shall maintain documentation showing: the goods or services provided; the date(s) on which the goods or services were provided, the terms and conditions of the arrangement; and what promotional consideration was provided. In addition, the convention committee shall disclose in its report covering the period the goods or services are received, in a memo entry, a description of the goods or services provided for promotional consideration, the name and address of the commercial vendor, and the dates on which the goods or services were provided (e.g., “Generic Motor Co., Detroit, Michigan—ten automobiles for use 7/15–7/20, received on 7/14”, or “Workers Inc., New York, New York—five temporary secretarial assistants for use 8/1–8/30, received on 8/1”).

(c) *Items of de minimis value.* Commercial vendors (including banks) may sell at nominal cost, or provide at no charge, items of *de minimis* value, such as samples, discount coupons, maps, pens, pencils, or other items included in tote bags for those attending the convention. The items of *de minimis* value may be distributed by or with the help of persons employed by the commercial vendor, or employed by or volunteering for the national party or a host committee. The value of the items of *de minimis* value provided under this paragraph need not be reported.

(d) *Expenditure Limits.* The value of goods or services provided pursuant to this section will not count toward the national party’s expenditure limitation under 11 CFR 9008.8(a).

§ 9008.10 Documentation of disbursements; net outstanding convention expenses.

The convention committee must include as part of the evidence of convention expenses the following documentation:

(a) For disbursements in excess of \$200 to a payee, either:

(1) A receipted bill from the payee that states the purpose of the disbursement; or

(2) If such a receipted bill is not available, the following documents;

(i) A canceled check negotiated by the payee; plus

(ii) One of the following documents generated by the payee—a bill, invoice, voucher or contemporaneous memorandum that states the purpose of the disbursement;

(iii) Where the documents specified at paragraph (a)(2)(ii) of this section are not available, a voucher or contemporaneous memorandum from the committee that states the purpose of the disbursement;

(3) If neither a receipted bill nor the supporting documentation specified in paragraph (a)(2) (ii) or (iii) of this section is available, a canceled check negotiated by the payee that states the purpose of the disbursement.

(4) Where the supporting documentation required above is not available, the committee may present a canceled check and collateral evidence to document the convention expense. Such collateral evidence may include but is not limited to:

(i) Evidence demonstrating that the disbursement is part of an identifiable program or project which is otherwise sufficiently documented, such as a disbursement which is one of a number of documented disbursements relating to the operation of a committee office;

(ii) Evidence that the disbursement is covered by a preestablished written committee policy, such as a daily travel expense policy.

(b) For all other disbursements:

(1) If from the petty cash fund, a record that states the full name and mailing address of the payee and the amount, date and purpose of the disbursement; or

(2) A canceled check which has been negotiated by the payee and states the identification of the payee, and the amount and date of the disbursement.

(c) For purposes of this section, *payee* means the person who provides the goods or services to the committee in return for the disbursement, except that an individual will be considered a payee under this section if he or she receives \$2,000 or less advanced for travel and/or subsistence and if he or she is the recipient of the goods or services purchased.

(d) For purposes of this section, the term *purpose* means the full name and