

§ 300.51

11 CFR Ch. I (1-1-04 Edition)

authorized representative of the organization with knowledge of the organization's activities;

(2) The certification states that within the current election cycle, the organization has not made, and does not intend to make, expenditures or disbursements in connection with an election for Federal office (including for Federal election activity); and

(3) The certification states that the organization or political committee 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.

(e) *Reliance on false certification.* If a national committee of a political party or any person described in paragraph (b) of this section has actual knowledge that the certification is false, the certification may not be relied upon.

(f) *Requests for information.* It is not prohibited for a national party or its agent to respond to a request for information about a tax-exempt group that shares the party's political or philosophical goals.

§ 300.51 Prohibited fundraising by State, district, or local party committees (2 U.S.C. 441i(d)).

(a) *Prohibitions.* A State, district, or local committee of a political party must not solicit any funds for, or make or direct any donations to:

(1) An organization that is described in 26 U.S.C. 501(c) and exempt from taxation under section 26 U.S.C. 501(a) and that makes expenditures or disbursements in connection with an election for Federal office, including expenditures or disbursements for Federal election activity;

(2) An organization that has submitted an application for tax-exempt status under 26 U.S.C. 501(c) and that makes expenditures or disbursements in connection with an election for Federal office, including expenditures or disbursements for Federal election activity; or

(3) An organization described in 26 U.S.C. 527, unless the organization is:

(i) A political committee under 11 CFR 100.5;

(ii) A State, district, or local committee of a political party;

(iii) The authorized campaign committee of a State or local candidate; or

(iv) A political committee under State law, that supports only State or local candidates and that does not make expenditures or disbursements in connection with an election for Federal office, including expenditures or disbursements for Federal election activity.

(b) *Application.* This section also applies to:

(1) An officer or agent acting on behalf of a State, district, or local committee of a political party;

(2) An entity that is directly or indirectly established, financed, maintained, or controlled by a State, district, or local committee or a political party or an officer or agent acting on behalf of such an entity; or

(3) An entity that is directly or indirectly established, financed, maintained, or controlled by an agent of a State, district, or local committee of a political party.

(c) *Determining whether an organization makes expenditures or disbursements in connection with a Federal election.*

(1) In determining whether a section 501(c) organization is one that makes expenditures or disbursements in connection with a Federal election, including expenditures or disbursements for Federal election activity, pursuant to paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section, a State, district, or local committee of a political party or any other person described in paragraph (b) of this section, may obtain and rely upon a certification from the organization that satisfies the criteria described in paragraph (d) of this section.

(2) In determining whether a section 527 organization is a State-registered political committee that supports only State or local candidates and does not make expenditures or disbursements in connection with a Federal election, including expenditures or disbursements for Federal election activity, pursuant to paragraph (a)(3)(iv) of this section, a State, district, or local committee of a political party or any other person described in paragraph (b) of this section,

Federal Election Commission

§ 300.52

may obtain and rely upon a certification from the organization that satisfies the criteria described in paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) *Certification.* A State, district, or local committee of a political party or any person described in paragraph (b) of this section may rely upon a certification that meets all of 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 or by the treasurer of the State-registered political committee described in paragraph (a)(3)(iv) of this section;

(2) The certification states that within the current election cycle, the organization or political committee has not made, and does not intend to make, expenditures or disbursements in connection with an election for Federal office (including for Federal election activity); and

(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.

(e) If a State, district, or local committee of a political party or any person described in paragraph (b) of this section has actual knowledge that the certification is false, the certification may not be relied upon.

(f) It is not prohibited for a State, district, or local committee of a political party or its agents to respond to a request for information about a tax-exempt group that shares the party's political or philosophical goals.

§ 300.52 Fundraising by Federal candidates and Federal officeholders (2 U.S.C. 441i(e)(1)&(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