From:	Bill Vigen
Sent By:	bill.vigen@gmail.com
To:	mdove@fec.gov
Subject:	Public Comment: FEC Action on ActBlue Matching Funds
Date:	12/12/2007 11:52 AM

As a citizen who has directed others to set up ActBlue accounts in order to direct individual campaign contributions to federal candidates and who plans to contribute through ActBlue to direct my individual campaign donations to a specific candidate, I urge the FEC to revise 11 C.F.R. §9034.3(f) to specifically allow ActBlue donations to be eligible for federal matching funds. The FEC has already provided that ActBlue can legally direct individual campaign contributions to federal candidates and even prospective federal candidates. Construing the law in a strict, formal manner to now not count individual donations for federal matching funds will be inconsistent with how the FEC has treated ActBlue up until this point. Changing the way the FEC interprets the law as applied to ActBlue at this point will mean many small donors relied on the FEC's past interpretations to their detriment. There is no demonstrated danger that matching ActBlue donations will subvert the campaign finance laws; indeed, the exact opposite will occur if ActBlue donations are not eligible for matching funds.

I request the FEC to either revise 11 C.F.R. §9034.3(f) to allow directed individual contributions from entities such as ActBlue to count for federal campaign matching or interpret 11 C.F.R. §9034.3(f) so as to allow ActBlue donations to be eligible for federal matching funds. If this is not done, I further request a full and complete explanation for the FEC's reasons, to include the reasons why my objections and arguments stated above are not persuasive.

I thank the Committee for their work in making sure the campaign finance laws and FEC regulations remain relevant and consistent in this new internet age.

Sincerely,

William Vigen

--
Bill Vigen
University of Virginia School of Law '09
434.242.3965