From: Joshua
To: mdove@fec.gov
Subject: I Use ActBlue for Personal Contributions
Date: 12/13/2007 10:36 AM

Dear Ms. Dove:

I have made numerous contributions to various candidates through ActBlue. I have contributed to the John Edwards campaign through Act Blue.

Please do not penalize him because of this way to contribute to his campaign. He should be able to get matching funds for my contribution.

ActBlue's system has made it easier to send contributions to the candidates I wanted to support – all at once with just a few clicks of a button (as opposed to going to numerous sites, a site at a time).

I used the service because I knew the candidate would receive my funds through this service. Had I know this would have been an issue, I would have made my donation directly to the campaign. I did it this way to show the various campaigns where the money was coming from. In the case of using a site like ActBlue, a campaign understands the donations are coming from what is called the grassroots or what we like to call the 'netroots' community.

It's a way to distinguish ourselves from the regular donating community.

ActBlue is exactly the same as Paypal collecting payment for services rendered on behalf of a seller and then depositing the funds into the sellers account, which I do on a regular basis through my eBay business as I am unable to accept payments with a credit card.

Finally, ActBlue's online system clearly distinguishes which

contributions would help pay for ActBlue's expenses when offering this service. A choice is given each of us as to whether or not a donor wants to “tip” (a percentage of the actual donation) to ActBlue or not.

It is not part of the donation.

I pray your decision doesn’t cause any of the campaign donations I have made to any candidate, especially to John Edwards, to be disqualified from matching funds.

This is not what the law was meant to prevent.

Please take this into consideration when you make your decision.

Thank you.

Joshua Epstein
NYC 10011
The Joshua Blog

Internal Virus Database is out-of-date.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.486 / Virus Database: 269.16.0/1137 - Release Date: 11/18/2007 5:15 PM