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| **From:** | stoermel |
| **To:** | mdove@fec.gov |
| **Subject:** | Draft AO 2007-31 |
| **Date:** | 12/13/2007 11:36 AM |

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Ma'am. My name is Christie Stoermer and I live in Zebulon, GA. I'm an average American citizen, living in a small town in a rural area. Thanks to ActBlue, I am also participating in my government via small political donations for the first time ever.

With ActBlue, I'm not required to track down the individual campaigns and go through their registration process. I don't want to be bombarded with never-ending fundraising crap emailed or physically mailed to me day in and day out. Donating through ActBlue keeps the spam out of both my physical and cyber mailbox. ActBlue is also a clearinghouse. I can find my chosen candidates easily and donate to them all at the same time, without having to spend a goodly portion of my time going from individual site to individual site.

ActBlue doesn't donate money on my behalf, like some PACs do. ActBlue simply forwards my money and my required disclosure information to the candidates that I choose to financially support. Because of that, I can see no reason why donations to a presidential campaign made through ActBlue should not qualify for matching funds. Preventing the matching funds would be penalizing the candidates, not to mention be detrimental to those of us who are trying to participate more fully in our elections. Fewer candidates may be willing to allow fund-raising to occur on ActBlue if they know that the millions of small donations won't count for matching funds. ActBlue isn't donating THEIR money to the candidates. They're forwarding on MY money to the candidates. There is a very large difference.

Thank you for your time.

Christie Stoermer
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