0-33-17

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION NATIONAL STATE BANK BLDG. SUITE 1114 TRENTON, N. J. 08605

(609) 292-8700

October 5, 1977

LEWIS B. THURSTON, III EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EDWARD J. FARRELL COUNSEL

Catherine A. West, Esq. Messrs. Pitney, Hardin & Kipp 163 Madison Avenue Morristown, New Jersey 07960

> Re: The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973 as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act") Your Letter Dated August 17, 1977 Opinion #(0-33-77)

Dear Ms. West:

Your letter dated August 17, 1977 to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), including a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for reply.

In the absence of facts suggesting an attempt to provide a campaign contribution by means of a procedure of this kind, the Commission is of the view that payment of an honorarium to a speaker would not constitute a campaign contribution to the speaker, at least where, as described in your letter, the speaker will speak to the personnel of the corporation at some time after the election, the payment of such honorarium would be conditioned upon his or her making such appearance, the honorarium would be paid at a time after the date of the election and will not in fact be related to a purpose of the corporation to further the campaign of the speaker.

Yours very truly,

Edward J. Farrell

Legal Counsel

EJF:jj