

State of Rem Jersey

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

SIGHEY GOLDMANN CHAIRMAN

JOSEPHINE B. MARGETTS ANDREW C. AXTELL M. ROBERT DECOTIS NAYIONAL STATE BANK BLDG., SUITE 1114 : 20 W. STATE STREEY TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08508 (608) 292-9700 LEWIS D. THURSTOR, III

EDWARD & FARRELL COUNSEL

May 11, 1981

Robert S. Raymar, Esquire 1180 Raymond Boulevard Newark, New Jersey 07102

Re: The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act, Chapter 83, Laws of 1973 as Amended and Supplemented ("the Act") Your letter dated April 24, 1981
Opinion #0-15-81

Dear Mr. Raymar:

Your letter dated April 24, 1981, to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("the Commission"), including a request for advisory opinion, has been forwarded to me for reply.

With respect to your first question, the use by a candidate of his or her own vehicle in connection with campaign related travel and transportation would not be regarded by the Commission as a contribution by the candidate to his campaign of the reasonable commercial value of the use of the vehicle, and would not be regarded as an expenditure includable in the calculation of the \$25,000 limitation upon expenditures from a candidate's own funds.

With respect to your second question, no portion of the salary of a campaign scheduler, as described in your letter, would be excludable from the limit on campaign expenditures as "reasonable and necessary expenses of transportation" pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:25-16.28. That section of the regulations limits the exclusion to the reasonable and necessary expenses of transportation, food and lodging, of staff members traveling with the candidate in the same or accompanying vehicles.

Page 2 Robert S. Raymar, Esq. May 11, 1981 With respect to your third question, the expenses of "advance" persons as described in your letter would not be excludable from the expenditure limitation. The scope of the travel exemption is necessarily limited by the intent of the statutory exemption. The Commission feels that the provisions of the regulations are sufficiently clear, and cannot reasonably be extended to include the expenses of "advance" staff as described in your letter. No part of the salary of such persons would be excludable in any event, since the exclusion provided by the regulation is limited to expenses related to travel and does not include salary. Yours very truly, General Counsel EJF:no