



# California Fair Political Practices Commission

August 2, 1990

Gerald H. Upholt  
Manager - Governmental Affairs  
California Rifle and Pistol  
Association, Inc.  
555 Capitol Mall, Ste. 455  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Your Request for Advice  
Our File No. A-90-420

Dear Mr. Upholt:

You have requested advice on behalf of the California Rifle and Pistol Association, Inc., Firearms Freedom Fund, Inc. doing business as California Rifle and Pistol Association/Sportsmen's Legislative Committee, and the California Rifle and Pistol Association/Sportsmen's Legislative Committee Political Action Committee concerning the campaign provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act").<sup>1</sup> On July 19, 1990, I telephoned you for additional information.

#### QUESTION

Is the California Rifle and Pistol Association/Sportsmen's Legislative Committee Political Action Committee (the "Committee") sponsored by California Rifle and Pistol Association, Inc. ("CRPA Inc.") as well as Firearms Freedom Fund, Inc. (doing business as California Rifle and Pistol Association/Sportsmen's Legislative Committee)?

#### CONCLUSION

From the information provided in your letter and our telephone conversation, it appears that CRPA Inc. qualifies as a sponsor of the Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Government Code Sections 81000-91015. All statutory references are to the Government Code unless otherwise indicated. Commission regulations appear at 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18000, et seq. All references to regulations are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations.

### FACTS

CRPA Inc. is a statewide non-profit membership organization formed for the purpose of promoting competitive marksmanship, firearms education, training, safety, and other activities related to lawful possession and use of firearms.

Firearms Freedom Fund, Inc. does business as and is publicly known as California Rifle and Pistol Association/Sportsmen's Legislative Committee. It was created by CRPA Inc. and it has an eight member board of directors, all of whom are members of CRPA Inc. It is our understanding that Firearms Freedom Fund, Inc. has no general members of its own. The Committee's Statement of Organization currently lists the California Rifle and Pistol Association/Sportsmen's Legislative Committee as its sponsor.

Although CRPA Inc. does not solicit contributions to the Committee, it publishes a monthly newsletter to its members and the Committee is planning to place in the publication advertisements soliciting contributions and articles describing its activities. It is estimated that about 75% of the contributions to the Committee will come from the membership of CRPA Inc. In addition, CRPA Inc. may donate advertising space in its publication to the Committee.

### ANALYSIS

Section 82048.7(b) specifies that an entity sponsors a committee if any of the following apply:

- (1) The committee receives all or nearly all of its contributions from the entity or its members, officers, employees, or shareholders.
- (2) The entity collects contributions for the committee by use of payroll deductions or dues from its members, officers, or employees.
- (3) The entity alone or in combination with other organizations, provides all or nearly all of the administrative services for the committee.
- (4) The entity, alone or in combination with other organizations, sets the policies for soliciting contributions or making expenditures of committee funds.

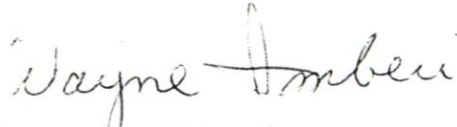
Because members of CPRA Inc. will provide nearly all of the contributions to the Committee, it qualifies as a sponsor of the Committee. Assuming that Firearms Freedom Fund, Inc. (dba California Rifle and Pistol Association/Sportsmen's Legislative Committee) also qualifies as a sponsor of the Committee under one or more of the above criteria, the Committee may include in its name a term that identifies both sponsors. You may wish to use the name "California Rifle and Pistol Association Political Action Committee."

Enclosed is a 1990 Statement of Organization (Form 410) you may use to amend the information contained on your current Statement of Organization. Please note that in Part IV, you should provide the complete name and address of each sponsor.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at (916) 322-5662.

Sincerely,

Scott Hallabrin  
Acting General Counsel



By: Wayne P. Imberi  
Political Reform Consultant

Enclosure