



Compliance Notes - Vol. 2, Issue 16

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RECENT LOBBYING, ETHICS & CAMPAIGN FINANCE UPDATES

We read the news, cut through the noise and provide you the notes.

Welcome to *Compliance Notes* from Nossaman's **Government Relations & Regulation Group** – a periodic digest of the headlines, statutory and regulatory changes and court cases involving campaign finance, lobbying compliance, election law and government ethics issues at the federal, state and local level.

Our attorneys, policy advisors and compliance consultants are available to discuss any questions or how specific issues may impact your business.

If there is a particular subject or jurisdiction you'd like to see covered, please let us know.

Until then, please enjoy this installment of **Compliance Notes**. If you would like to have these updates delivered directly to your in-box, please click below to subscribe to our Government Relations & Regulation mailing list.

Campaign Finance & Lobbying Compliance

The Department of Justice (DOJ) filed federal wire fraud charges against James Kyle Bell, who ran a pro-Trump Super PAC as a so-called "scam PAC." Bell is accused of raising \$250,000 to support Trump, with virtually none of it being spent for that purpose. The DOJ says Bell pocketed the funds for himself. (Bell also ran a pro-Biden Super PAC, but no charges were filed in connection with that operation.) (Lachlan Markey, *Axios*)

Tennessee: Bill Ketron, the mayor of Rutherford County, TN, faces \$135,000 in penalties assessed by the Tennessee Registry of Election Finance after a series of audits found 474 violations due to discrepancies in the campaign finance reports of three different committees that he controlled. (Tayla Courage, *Murfreesboro Post*)

Government Ethics & Transparency

The U.S. State Department's inspector general found that former-Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and his wife violated government ethics rules by asking staffers to conduct personal errands, such as pet care and making personal restaurant reservations. (Associated Press, NBC News)

Nonprofits

Michigan: Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson's office decided that a nonprofit group that provided contributions to Unlock Michigan, a ballot measure committee, did not need to disclose its donors as the underlying source of those contributions unless those funds were received for "the sole purpose" of transmitting them to Unlock Michigan. The complainant in the case has said he plans to seek reconsideration of the decision. (Chris Mauger, *The Detroit News*)