



Republican  
National  
Committee

Counsel's Office

July 16, 1999

President Sangthong Setharatsomphou  
Lao American National Republican Party of the U.S.A  
1279 Sebring Circle  
Elgin, IL 60210

Dear President Setharatsomphou,

I am writing in response to your request to use the words "Republican" and "Republican Party" as part of the activities of your non-profit organization.

Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1052(e), the Patent and Trademark office has designated "Republican" a descriptive term that cannot be registered as a trademark. Therefore, you may use "Republican" and "Republican Party" without permission from the Republican National Committee.

The Republican National Committee does, however, own trademark rights to other words related to the Republican party. "Republican National Committee," "RNC," "Grand Old Party," and "GOP" are all registered trademarks of the Republican National Committee. If you intend to use any of the above mentioned trademarks, you must first obtain permission from the Republican National Committee.

Good luck in your efforts to advance the goals of the Republican Party.

Sincerely,

Kenneth P. Jones  
Associate Counsel

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