Form 990

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

A For the 2009 calendar year, or tax year beginning APR 1, 2009 and ending MAR 31, 2010

B Check if applicable:

1. Address change
2. Name change
3. Doing Business As
4. See preceding instructions.
5. Amended return pending

C Name of organization

CENTER FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN POLITICS

Doing Business As PROJECT VOTE SMART

Address of principal office:

ONE COMMON GROUND

PHILIPSBURG, MT 59858

D Employer identification number

85-0364261

E Telephone number

406-859-8683

G Gross receipts

2,083,128

H(a) Is this a group return for affiliates?

No

H(b) Are all affiliates included?

Yes

H(c) Group exemption number


I Website:

WWW.VOTE-SMART.ORG

J Form of organization:

Corporation Trust Association Other

K Year of formation:

1988

L State of legal domicile:

MT

Part I Summary

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities:

VOTER EDUCATION: NON-PARTISAN

INFORMATION ABOUT POLITICAL CANDIDATES

Activities & Governance

3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)

9

4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)

7

5 Total number of employees (Part V, line 2a)

51

6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)

107

7a Total gross unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12

0

7b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34

0

Revenue

8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)

1,305,923

Current Year

1,679,566

9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)

39,289

19,846

10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)

24,066

<11,188>

11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10a, and 11e)

1,369,278

1,688,244

12 Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)

1,305,923

1,679,566

Expenses

13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)

15,135,515

783,346

14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)

1,135,515

783,346

16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)

88,218

88,218

17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24f)

891,648

482,634

18 Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)

2,027,163

1,265,980

19 Revenue less expenses, Subtract line 18 from line 12

<657,885>

422,264

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

Signature of officer

Date

Type or print name and title

Preparer's signature

Date

Check if self-employed

Preparer's identifying number

Preparer's employer EIN

Phone no.

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions)

Yes

No

EOI: 08-04-10

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Form 990 (2009)
**Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**

1. Briefly describe the organization's mission:
   
   **EDUCATION: NON-PARTISAN INFORMATION ABOUT POLITICAL CANDIDATES.**

2. Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? [X] Yes  
   If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3. Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? [X] Yes  
   If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

4. Describe the exempt purpose achievements for each of the organization's three largest program services by expenses.

   **RESEARCH:**
   
   PROJECT VOTE SMART DEVOTES CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO RESEARCHING INFORMATION ABOUT ALL CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENTIAL, CONGRESSIONAL, GUBERNATORIAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE OFFICE AND Elected OFFICIALS. THIS INCLUDES VOTING RECORDS, BIOGRAPHICAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION, ISSUE POSITIONS, INTEREST GROUP RATINGS, PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND CAMPAIGN FINANCES. ONE OF MANY WAYS THIS IS DONE IS THROUGH A POLITICAL COURAGE TEST WHICH ASKS CANDIDATES WHICH ISSUES THEY WILL SUPPORT AND OPPOSE. VOTERS THUS HAVE ACCESS TO UNBIASED INFORMATION ON CANDIDATES AS WELL AS THOSE servINg IN ELECTED POSITIONS. MUCH OF THIS RESEARCH IS DONE BY VOLUNTEERS AND PROJECT INTERNs WHO SPEND 10 WEEKS AT THE PROJECT.

   **INFORMATION DELIVERY (OUTREACH):**
   
   ONCE INFORMATION IS THOROUGHLY RESEARCHED AND SUBSTANTIATED, PROJECT VOTE SMART TAKES IT DIRECTLY INTO COMMUNITIES. THIS IS DONE THROUGH:
   1. A STRONG WEBSITE WHERE A COMPREHENSIVE DATABASE ON OFFICIALS CAN BE EASILY ACCESSED.
   2. PARTNERSHIPS WITH LIBRARIES TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION.
   3. A VOTER'S RESEARCH HOTLINE WHICH CAN BE CALLED TO ACCESS INFORMATION.
   4. PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE INCLUDING A "VOTERS SELF DEFENSE MANUAL".
   5. SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE TO POLITICAL JOURNALISTS TO HELP IN FACT-CHECKING AND BACKGROUND FOR STORIES. THIS INCLUDES "THE REPORTERS SOURCE BOOK" WHICH PROVIDES A CONCISE OVERVIEW OF MAJOR NATIONAL ISSUES AS WELL AS A CONTACT DIRECTORY FOR HUNDREDS OF SOURCES.

4a. (Code: ) (Expenses $747,086, including grants of $ ) (Revenue $9,176.)

4b. (Code: ) (Expenses $340,132, including grants of $ ) (Revenue $7,005.)

4c. (Code: ) (Expenses $ including grants of $ ) (Revenue $ )

4d. Other program services. (Describe in Schedule O.)

   (Expenses $ including grants of $ ) (Revenue $ )

4e. Total program service expenses $1,087,218.
### Checklist of Required Schedules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), and 501(c)(6) organizations. Is the organization subject to the section 6033(e) notice and reporting requirement and proxy tax?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts where donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in term, permanent, or quasi-endowments?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Is the organization's answer to any of the following questions &quot;Yes&quot;? If so, complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did the organization report an amount for investments - other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did the organization report an amount for investments - program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12A Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than $10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, and program service activities outside the United States?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than $5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than $5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Did the organization report a total of more than $15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11c?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Did the organization report more than $15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Did the organization report more than $15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Did the organization operate one or more hospitals?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Did the organization report more than $5,000 of grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 1? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Did the organization report more than $5,000 of grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 2? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Did the organization answer &quot;Yes&quot; to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization’s current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule J</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than $100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? If &quot;Yes,&quot; answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If &quot;No&quot;, go to line 25</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d Did the organization act as an &quot;on behalf of&quot; issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25a Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule L, Part I</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization’s prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule L, Part I</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highly compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization’s tax year? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule L, Part II</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor, or a grant selection committee member, or to a person related to such an individual? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule L, Part III</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties, (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule L, Part IV</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule L, Part IV</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee of the organization (or a family member) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule L, Part IV</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Did the organization receive more than $25,000 in non-cash contributions? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule M</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule M</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule N, Part I</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule N, Part II</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule R, Part I</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 Is any related organization a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule R, Part VI</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? If &quot;Yes,&quot; complete Schedule R, Part VI</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38 Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11 and 19?</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note.** All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O.
### Part V: Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096, Annual Summary and Transmittal of U.S. Information Returns. Enter -0- if not applicable.</td>
<td>1a</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1b</td>
<td>Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable</td>
<td>1b</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1c</td>
<td>Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?</td>
<td>1c</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2a</td>
<td>Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return</td>
<td>2a</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2b</td>
<td>If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns?</td>
<td>2b</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3a</td>
<td>Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of $1,000 or more during the year covered by this return?</td>
<td>3a</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3b</td>
<td>If “Yes,” has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If “No,” provide an explanation in Schedule O</td>
<td>3b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4a</td>
<td>At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?</td>
<td>4a</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4b</td>
<td>If “Yes,” enter the name of the foreign country.  See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.</td>
<td>4b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5a</td>
<td>Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?</td>
<td>5a</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5b</td>
<td>Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?</td>
<td>5b</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5c</td>
<td>If “Yes,” to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T, Disclosure by Tax-Exempt Entity Regarding Prohibited Tax Shelter Transaction?</td>
<td>5c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6a</td>
<td>Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than $100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible?</td>
<td>6a</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6b</td>
<td>If “Yes,” did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?</td>
<td>6b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7a</td>
<td>Did the organization receive a payment in excess of $75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?</td>
<td>7a</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7b</td>
<td>If “Yes,” did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?</td>
<td>7b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7c</td>
<td>Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?</td>
<td>7c</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7d</td>
<td>If “Yes,” indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year</td>
<td>7d</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7e</td>
<td>Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?</td>
<td>7e</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7f</td>
<td>Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?</td>
<td>7f</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7g</td>
<td>For all contributions of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?</td>
<td>7g</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7h</td>
<td>For contributions of cars, boats, airplanes, and other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C as required?</td>
<td>7h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations. Did the supporting organization, or a donor advised fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year?</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9a</td>
<td>Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?</td>
<td>9a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9b</td>
<td>Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?</td>
<td>9b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10a</td>
<td>Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12</td>
<td>10a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10b</td>
<td>Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities</td>
<td>10b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11a</td>
<td>Gross income from members or shareholders</td>
<td>11a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11b</td>
<td>Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.)</td>
<td>11b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12a</td>
<td>Section 4947(a) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?</td>
<td>12a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12b</td>
<td>If “Yes,” enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year</td>
<td>12b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section A. Governing Body and Management

1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body .................................................. Yes No 1a 9
b Enter the number of voting members that are independent .................................................... 1b 7

2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee? .......................................................... 2 X

3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person? .................... 3 X

4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its organizational documents since the prior Form 990 was filed? .......................................................... 4 X

5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a material diversion of the organization’s assets? .......................... 5 X

6 Does the organization have members or stockholders? .......................................................... 6 X

7a Does the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who may elect one or more members of the governing body? .......................... 7a X
b Are any decisions of the governing body subject to approval by members, stockholders, or other persons? .......................... 7b X

8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:
   a The governing body? .............................................................................................................. 8a X
   b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body? .................................. 8b X

9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization’s mailing address? If “Yes,” provide the names and addresses in Schedule O .......................... 9 X

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

10a Does the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates? ...................................... Yes No 10a X
   b If “Yes,” does the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with those of the organization? ........................................................................... 10b X

11 Has the organization provided a copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form? .......................... 11 X

11A Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990. .......................................................................................................................... 11a X

12a Does the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If “No,” go to line 13 .......................... 12a X
   b Are officers, directors or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts? .............................................................................................................. 12b X
   c Does the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If “Yes,” describe in Schedule O how this is done ............ 12c X

13 Does the organization have a written whistleblower policy? .................................................. 13 X

14 Does the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy? .................. 14 X

15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision? .......................................................... 15a X
   a The organization’s CEO, Executive Director, or top management official .............. 15a X
   b Other officers or key employees of the organization .......................................................... 15b X
   If “Yes” to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O. (See instructions.) .......................... 15c X

16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year? ........................................... 16a X
   b If “Yes,” has the organization adopted a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and taken steps to safeguard the organization’s exempt status with respect to such arrangements? .......................... 16b X

Section C. Disclosure

17 List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed: AZ, MT

18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you make these available. Check all that apply.
   [ ] Own website [ ] Another’s website [X] Upon request

19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization makes its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public.

20 State the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization: ONE COMMON GROUND, PHILIPSBURG, MT 59858
   THE ORGANIZATION – 406-859-8683
### Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

#### Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization’s tax year. Use Schedule J-2 if additional space is needed.

- List all of the organization’s current officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation.
- List all of the organization’s current key employees. See instructions for definition of “key employee.”
- List the organization’s five current highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than $100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization’s former officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than $100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization’s former directors or trustees that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than $10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

- Check this box if the organization did not compensate any current officer, director, or trustee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(A) Name and Title</th>
<th>(B) Average hours per week</th>
<th>(C) Position (check all that apply)</th>
<th>(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)</th>
<th>(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)</th>
<th>(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RICHARD KIMBALL</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>X X</td>
<td>67,346.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>7,825.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESIDENT/ EXECUTIVE DIR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADELAIDE ELM KIMBALL</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>X X</td>
<td>55,577.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>8,164.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREASURER</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>X X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUSAN BRANDIS</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>X X</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECRETARY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JESSICA ARRIGONI</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOARD MEMBER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRENT STEELE</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOARD MEMBER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KYLE DELL</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOARD MEMBER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JON TRACHTA</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOARD MEMBER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAN O’NEILL</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOARD MEMBER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILLIAM CLINTON</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOARD MEMBER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Part VII

#### Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(A) Name and title</th>
<th>(B) Average hours per week</th>
<th>(C) Position (check all that apply)</th>
<th>(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)</th>
<th>(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)</th>
<th>(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Individual trustee or director</td>
<td>Officer</td>
<td>Officer</td>
<td>Former</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Key employee</td>
<td>Former</td>
<td>Former</td>
<td>Former</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Highest compensated employee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Former</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1b Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than $100,000 in reportable compensation from the organization: **122,923.8**

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than $100,000 in compensation from the organization: **0**

3 Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual:

   - **Yes**: [ ]
   - **No**: [x]  **3**

4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than $150,000? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual:

   - **Yes**: [ ]
   - **No**: [x]  **4**

5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization for services rendered to the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person:

   - **Yes**: [x]  **5**

#### Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than $100,000 of compensation from the organization.

   - **NONE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(A) Name and business address</th>
<th>(B) Description of services</th>
<th>(C) Compensation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than $100,000 in compensation from the organization: **0**
### Part VIII Statement of Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributions, gifts, grants and other similar amounts</th>
<th>(A) Total revenue</th>
<th>(B) Related or exempt function revenue</th>
<th>(C) Unrelated business revenue</th>
<th>(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512, 513, or 514</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1a Federated campaigns</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1b Membership dues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1c Fundraising events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1d Related organizations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1e Government grants (contributions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,679,586.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f</td>
<td>$932,090</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h Total Add lines 1a-1f</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,679,586.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Program Service Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Code</th>
<th>2 a STUDENT WORK STUDY REI</th>
<th>611710</th>
<th>9,176</th>
<th>9,176</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 b DEBATE FEES</td>
<td></td>
<td>611710</td>
<td>7,005</td>
<td>7,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 c HEALTH INSURANCE REIMBS</td>
<td></td>
<td>611710</td>
<td>3,056</td>
<td>3,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 d OTHER MISCELLANEOUS PR</td>
<td></td>
<td>611710</td>
<td>609</td>
<td>609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 f All other program service revenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 g Total Add lines 2a-2f</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19,846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Income Income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)

| 3                      | 21,413 | |

#### Investment Income of tax-exempt bond proceeds

| 4                      | 21,413 | |

#### Royalties

| 5                      |       | |

#### Gross Rents

| 6a                      |       | |
| 6b                      |       | |
| 6c                      |       | |
| 6d                      |       | |

#### Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7a Securities Other</th>
<th>&lt;32,601&gt;</th>
<th>&lt;32,601&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7b Securities Other</td>
<td>&lt;32,601&gt;</td>
<td>&lt;32,601&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7c Securities Other</td>
<td>&lt;32,601&gt;</td>
<td>&lt;32,601&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net gain or (loss)

| 8                      |       | |

#### Gross income from fundraising events (not including $ of contributions reported on line 1c).

| Part IV, line 18       |       | |
|------------------------|-------| |
| 9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19 |       | |
| 9b Less: direct expenses |       | |
| 9c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities |       | |

#### Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances

| 10a                     |       | |
| 10b                     |       | |
| 10c                     |       | |

#### Miscellaneous Revenue

| 11a                     |       | |
| 11b                     |       | |
| 11c                     |       | |
| 11d                     |       | |
| 11e Total Add lines 11a-11d |       | 1,688,244. | <12,755.> | 0. 21,413 |

#### Total revenue. See instructions.

| 12                      |       | |

---

Form 990 (2009)

0310204 137273 0108018 2009.05000 CENTER FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE 01080181
Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns.  
All other organizations must complete column (A) but are not required to complete columns (B), (C), and (D).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.</th>
<th>(A) Total expenses</th>
<th>(B) Program service expenses</th>
<th>(C) Management and general expenses</th>
<th>(D) Fundraising expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the U.S. See Part IV, line 21</td>
<td>149,919.</td>
<td>112,035.</td>
<td>15,801.</td>
<td>22,083.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Grants and other assistance to individuals in the U.S. See Part IV, line 22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the U.S. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Benefits paid to or for members</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees</td>
<td>508,657.</td>
<td>457,868.</td>
<td>22,070.</td>
<td>28,719.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Other salaries and wages</td>
<td>59,176.</td>
<td>53,250.</td>
<td>2,682.</td>
<td>3,244.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k) and section 403(b) employer contributions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Other employee benefits</td>
<td>65,594.</td>
<td>56,949.</td>
<td>3,706.</td>
<td>4,939.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Payroll taxes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Fees for services (non-employees):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a Management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b Legal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c Accounting</td>
<td>16,668.</td>
<td>15,668.</td>
<td>1,000.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d Lobbying</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f Investment management fees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Advertising and promotion</td>
<td>1,088.</td>
<td>603.</td>
<td>485.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Office expenses</td>
<td>14,615.</td>
<td>12,689.</td>
<td>826.</td>
<td>1,100.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Information technology</td>
<td>11,464.</td>
<td>9,953.</td>
<td>648.</td>
<td>863.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Royalties</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Occupancy</td>
<td>38,548.</td>
<td>33,467.</td>
<td>2,178.</td>
<td>2,903.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Travel</td>
<td>23,943.</td>
<td>20,759.</td>
<td>1,184.</td>
<td>2,000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings</td>
<td>8,664.</td>
<td>8,664.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Interest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Payments to affiliates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization</td>
<td>93,346.</td>
<td>84,432.</td>
<td>3,821.</td>
<td>5,093.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Insurance</td>
<td>14,610.</td>
<td>12,321.</td>
<td>1,221.</td>
<td>1,068.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (Expenses grouped together and labeled miscellaneous may not exceed 5% of total expenses shown on line 25 below.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a PRINTING AND POSTAGE</td>
<td>127,280.</td>
<td>110,505.</td>
<td>7,191.</td>
<td>9,584.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b CONSULTANTS / CONTRACT</td>
<td>47,253.</td>
<td>45,603.</td>
<td>1,500.</td>
<td>150.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c FOOD / KITCHEN</td>
<td>31,827.</td>
<td>27,633.</td>
<td>1,798.</td>
<td>2,396.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d TELEPHONE</td>
<td>23,195.</td>
<td>20,136.</td>
<td>1,310.</td>
<td>1,749.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS</td>
<td>14,243.</td>
<td>13,234.</td>
<td>1,009.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f All other expenses</td>
<td>15,890.</td>
<td>7,117.</td>
<td>7,446.</td>
<td>1,327.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24f</td>
<td>1,265,980.</td>
<td>1,087,218.</td>
<td>90,544.</td>
<td>88,218.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Joint costs. Check here if following SOP 98-2. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# CENTER FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN POLITICS

**Form 990 (2009)**  
85-0364261  
Page 11

## Part X Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>(A) Beginning of year</th>
<th>(B) End of year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cash - non-interest-bearing</td>
<td>70,248.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Savings and temporary cash investments</td>
<td>409,992.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pledges and grants receivable, net</td>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Accounts receivable, net</td>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L</td>
<td>7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B). Complete Part II of Schedule L</td>
<td>9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Notes and loans receivable, net</td>
<td>11.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Inventories for sale or use</td>
<td>13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Prepaid expenses and deferred charges</td>
<td>15.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10a</td>
<td>Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D</td>
<td>2,451,760.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10b</td>
<td>Less: accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>781,416.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Investments - publicly traded securities</td>
<td>525,648.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Investments - other securities. See Part IV, line 11</td>
<td>17.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Investments - program-related. See Part IV, line 11</td>
<td>23.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Intangible assets</td>
<td>24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Other assets. See Part IV, line 11</td>
<td>5,314.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)</td>
<td>2,770,290.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>17.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Grants payable</td>
<td>19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>21.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L</td>
<td>27.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties</td>
<td>29.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties</td>
<td>31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Other liabilities. Complete Part X of Schedule D</td>
<td>33.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25</td>
<td>5,314.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ X and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>(A) Beginning of year</th>
<th>(B) End of year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Unrestricted net assets</td>
<td>2,172,990.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Temporarily restricted net assets</td>
<td>36,083.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Permanently restricted net assets</td>
<td>555,903.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ □ and complete lines 30 through 34.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>(A) Beginning of year</th>
<th>(B) End of year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds</td>
<td>31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund</td>
<td>32.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds</td>
<td>33.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Total net assets or fund balances</td>
<td>2,764,976.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances</td>
<td>2,770,290.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Financial Statements and Reporting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: [ ] Cash</td>
<td>[x] Accrual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked &quot;Other,&quot; explain in Schedule O.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2a</td>
<td>Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2b</td>
<td>Were the organization’s financial statements audited by an independent accountant?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2c</td>
<td>If “Yes” to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>If “Yes” to line 2a or 2b, check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were issued on a consolidated basis, separate basis, or both:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[ ] Separate basis</td>
<td>[ ] Consolidated basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3a</td>
<td>As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3b</td>
<td>If “Yes,” did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Form 990 (2009)
**SCHEDULE A (Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

**Public Charity Status and Public Support**

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust. 

**2009**

Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. See separate instructions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the organization</th>
<th>Employer identification number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CENTER FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN POLITICS</td>
<td>85-0364261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Part I  Reason for Public Charity Status** (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box.)

1. A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).
3. A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).
4. A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). Enter the hospital’s name, city, and state:
5. An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).
6. A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).
7. An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).
8. A community trust described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vii). (Complete Part II.)
9. An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions - subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See section 509(a)(2). (Complete Part III.)
10. An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See section 509(a)(4).
11. An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). See section 509(a)(3). Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h.
   a. Type I
   b. Type II
   c. Type III - Functionally integrated
   d. Type III - Other

   e. By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization.

   f. If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box.

   g. Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?

   (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization.

   (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?

   (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?

**Part II  Organization Type**

Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(i) Name of supported organization</th>
<th>(ii) EIN</th>
<th>(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above or IRC section (see instructions))</th>
<th>(iv) Is the organization in col. (i) listed in your governing document?</th>
<th>(v) Did you notify the organization in col. (i) of your support?</th>
<th>(vi) Is the organization in col. (i) organized in the U.S.?</th>
<th>(vii) Amount of support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(A) Public Foundation (check box if)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(B) Private Foundation (check box if)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(C) Other (check box if)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(i) Name of supported organization</th>
<th>(ii) EIN</th>
<th>(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above or IRC section (see instructions))</th>
<th>(iv) Is the organization in col. (i) listed in your governing document?</th>
<th>(v) Did you notify the organization in col. (i) of your support?</th>
<th>(vi) Is the organization in col. (i) organized in the U.S.?</th>
<th>(vii) Amount of support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(A) Public Foundation (check box if)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(B) Private Foundation (check box if)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(C) Other (check box if)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2009 Form 990 or 990-EZ.
### Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I.)

#### Section A. Public Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)</th>
<th>(a) 2005</th>
<th>(b) 2006</th>
<th>(c) 2007</th>
<th>(d) 2008</th>
<th>(e) 2009</th>
<th>(f) Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any &quot;unusual grants.&quot;)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Section B. Total Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)</th>
<th>(a) 2005</th>
<th>(b) 2006</th>
<th>(c) 2007</th>
<th>(d) 2008</th>
<th>(e) 2009</th>
<th>(f) Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Amounts from line 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

| | | | | | |
| 14 Public support percentage for 2009 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) |         |         |         |         | 14 |
| 15 Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 |         |         |         |         | 15 |
| 16a 33 1/3% support test - 2009. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization |         |         |         |         |         |
| 16b 33 1/3% support test - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization |         |         |         |         |         |
| 17a 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2009. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization |         |         |         |         |         |
| 17b 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization |         |         |         |         |         |
| 18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions |         |         |         |         |         |
### Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

#### Section A. Public Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)</th>
<th>(a) 2006</th>
<th>(b) 2006</th>
<th>(c) 2007</th>
<th>(d) 2008</th>
<th>(e) 2009</th>
<th>(f) Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received.</td>
<td>1451608.</td>
<td>1345632.</td>
<td>1538530.</td>
<td>1305923.</td>
<td>1678586.</td>
<td>7320279.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose.</td>
<td>3,943.</td>
<td>3,268.</td>
<td>39,289.</td>
<td>19,846.</td>
<td>66,346.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Total. Add lines 1 through 5.</td>
<td>1455551.</td>
<td>1345632.</td>
<td>1541798.</td>
<td>1345212.</td>
<td>1698432.</td>
<td>7386625.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7a. Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7b. Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of $5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Public support (Add lines 7a and 7b).</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Section B. Total Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)</th>
<th>(a) 2005</th>
<th>(b) 2006</th>
<th>(c) 2007</th>
<th>(d) 2008</th>
<th>(e) 2009</th>
<th>(f) Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10a. Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources.</td>
<td>79,653.</td>
<td>83,030.</td>
<td>129,158.</td>
<td>53,968.</td>
<td>21,413.</td>
<td>367,222.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10b. Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975.</td>
<td>79,653.</td>
<td>83,030.</td>
<td>129,158.</td>
<td>53,968.</td>
<td>21,413.</td>
<td>367,222.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV).</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Total support (Add lines 9, 10a, 10b, 11, and 12).</td>
<td>1535204.</td>
<td>1428662.</td>
<td>1670956.</td>
<td>1399180.</td>
<td>1719845.</td>
<td>7753847.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

| | | | | | | |
| 15. Public support percentage for 2009 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)). | 95.26% |
| 16. Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 15. | 94.73% |

#### Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

| | | | | | | |
| 17. Investment income percentage for 2009 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)). | 4.74% |
| 18. Investment income percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 17. | 5.27% |

| | | | | | | |
| 19a. 33 1/3% support tests - 2009. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization. | X |
| 19b. 33 1/3% support tests - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization. | X |
| 20. Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions. | X |
**Part I** Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered “Yes” to Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>Total number at end of year</th>
<th>(a) Donor advised funds</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aggregate contributions to (during year)</td>
<td>(b) Funds and other accounts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Aggregate grants from (during year)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aggregate value at end of year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization’s property, subject to the organization’s exclusive legal control? Yes No

6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? Yes No

**Part II** Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered “Yes” to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply).

- Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or pleasure)
- Protection of natural habitat
- Preservation of open space
- Preservation of an historically important land area
- Preservation of a certified historic structure

2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2a</th>
<th>Total number of conservation easements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2b</td>
<td>Total acreage restricted by conservation easements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2c</td>
<td>Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2d</td>
<td>Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located.

5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? Yes No

6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing conservation easements during the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6</th>
<th>Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing conservation easements during the year.

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2d above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? Yes No

9 In Part XIV, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization’s financial statements that describes the organization’s accounting for conservation easements.

**Part III** Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered “Yes” to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIV, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items.

1b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(i) Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 relating to these items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b Assets included in Form 990, Part X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):
   a ☐ Public exhibition
   b ☐ Scholarly research
   c ☐ Preservation for future generations
   d ☐ Loan or exchange programs
   e ☐ Other

4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIV.

5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements. Complete if organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV and complete the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1f</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV.

Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

1a Beginning of year balance
   (a) Current year 555,903. (b) Prior year 555,903.
   (c) Two years back
   (d) Three years back
   (e) Four years back
   (f) Other expenditures for facilities and programs
   (g) Administrative expenses
   (h) End of year balance 555,903.

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the year end balance held as:
   a Board designated or quasi-endowment %
   b Permanent endowment %
   c Term endowment %

3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:
   (i) unrelated organizations
   (ii) related organizations

   b If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part VI Investments - Land, Buildings, and Equipment. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of investment</th>
<th>(a) Cost or other basis (investment)</th>
<th>(b) Cost or other basis (other)</th>
<th>(c) Accumulated depreciation</th>
<th>(d) Book value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1a Land</td>
<td>26,839.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>26,839.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1b Buildings</td>
<td>1,924,846.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>1,461,757.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1c Leasehold improvements</td>
<td>181,626.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>27,663.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1d Equipment</td>
<td>318,449.</td>
<td>0.</td>
<td>154,085.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total 1a through 1e.</td>
<td>(Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).) 1,670,344.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Part VII Investments - Other Securities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)</th>
<th>(b) Book value</th>
<th>(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial derivatives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closely-held equity interests</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total. (Col (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12.)**

### Part VIII Investments - Program Related

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a) Description of investment type</th>
<th>(b) Book value</th>
<th>(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total. (Col (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13.)**

### Part IX Other Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a) Description</th>
<th>(b) Book value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 15.)**

### Part X Other Liabilities

1. **Description of liability**
   - Federal income taxes
     - CREDIT CARDS PAYABLE: 3,608
     - PAYROLL LIABILITIES: 5,333

**Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25.)** 8,941

2. **FIN 48 Footnote.** In Part XIV, provide the text of the footnote to the organization’s financial statements that reports the organization’s liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48.
### Part XI Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets from Form 990 to Audited Financial Statements

1. Total revenue (Form 990, Part VIII, column (A), line 12) .................................................. 1
2. Total expenses (Form 990, Part IX, column (A), line 25) .................................................. 2
3. Excess or (deficit) for the year. Subtract line 2 from line 1 .................................................. 3
4. Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments ........................................................................... 4
5. Donated services and use of facilities ..................................................................................... 5
6. Investment expenses ............................................................................................................. 6
7. Prior period adjustments ....................................................................................................... 7
8. Other (Describe in Part XIV.) ................................................................................................ 8
9. Total adjustments (net). Add lines 4 through 8 .................................................................. 9
10. Excess or (deficit) for the year per audited financial statements. Combine lines 3 and 9 .... 10

### Part XII Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

1. Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements ......................... 1
2. Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:
   a. Net unrealized gains on investments ............................................................................. 2a
   b. Donated services and use of facilities .......................................................................... 2b
   c. Recoveries of prior year grants .................................................................................... 2c
   d. Other (Describe in Part XIV.) ....................................................................................... 2d
   e. Add lines 2a through 2d ............................................................................................. 2e
3. Subtract line 2e from line 1 ................................................................................................ 3
4. Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1:
   a. Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b ......................... 4a
   b. Other (Describe in Part XIV.) ....................................................................................... 4b
   c. Add lines 4a and 4b ................................................................................................. 4c
5. Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.) ............... 5

### Part XIII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return

1. Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements ................................................. 1
2. Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25:
   a. Donated services and use of facilities .......................................................................... 2a
   b. Prior year adjustments .................................................................................................. 2b
   c. Other losses .................................................................................................................. 2c
   d. Other (Describe in Part XIV.) ....................................................................................... 2d
   e. Add lines 2a through 2d ............................................................................................. 2e
3. Subtract line 2e from line 1 ................................................................................................ 3
4. Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:
   a. Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b ......................... 4a
   b. Other (Describe in Part XIV.) ....................................................................................... 4b
   c. Add lines 4a and 4b ................................................................................................. 4c
5. Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.) ............... 5

### Part XIV Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4; Part X, line 2; Part XI, line 8; Part XII, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XIII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.
Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.

☐ First-class or charter travel
☐ Travel for companions
☐ Tax indemnification and gross-up payments
☐ Discretionary spending account
☐ Housing allowance or residence for personal use
☐ Payments for business use of personal residence
☐ Health or social club dues or initiation fees
☐ Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)

b If any of the boxes on line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If “No,” complete Part III to explain

2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all officers, directors, trustees, and the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?

3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the organization uses to establish the compensation of the organization’s CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply.

☐ Compensation committee
☐ Independent compensation consultant
☐ Form 990 of other organizations
☐ Written employment contract
☐ Compensation survey or study
☐ Approval by the board or compensation committee

4 During the year, did any person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:

a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?

b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?

c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?

If “Yes” to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.

Only section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete lines 5-9.

5 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:

a The organization?

b Any related organization?

If “Yes” to line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.

6 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:

a The organization?

b Any related organization?

If “Yes” to line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.

7 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If “Yes,” describe in Part III

8 Were any amounts reported in Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regs. section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If “Yes,” describe in Part III

9 If “Yes” to line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Schedule J (Form 990) 2009
Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use Schedule J-1 if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported in Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii).

Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII.

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) must equal the applicable column (D) or column (E) amounts on Form 990, Part VII, line 1a.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(A) Name</th>
<th>(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation</th>
<th>(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation</th>
<th>(D) Nontaxable benefits</th>
<th>(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)</th>
<th>(F) Compensation reported in prior Form 990 or Form 990-EZ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(i) Base compensation</td>
<td>(ii) Bonus &amp; incentive compensation</td>
<td>(i) Other reportable compensation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Complete this part to provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8. Also complete this part for any additional information.

**PART I, LINE 1A: RICHARD KIMBALL (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR) IS REQUIRED TO LIVE ON SITE IN RURAL MONTANA IN ORDER TO SUPERVISE ALL STAFF AND STUDENT INTERNS.**

**STUDENT INTERNS AND MANY STAFF LIVE ON SITE IN RESIDENCE HALLS.**
Noncash Contributions

Complete if the organizations answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.

Attach to Form 990.

Part I | Types of Property

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a) Check if applicable</th>
<th>(b) Number of contributions</th>
<th>(c) Revenues reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g</th>
<th>(d) Method of determining revenues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Art - Works of art</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Art - Historical treasures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Art - Fractional interests</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Books and publications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Clothing and household goods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Cars and other vehicles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Boats and planes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Intellectual property</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Securities - Publicly traded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Securities - Closely held stock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Securities - Partnership, LLC, or trust interests</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Securities - Miscellaneous</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Qualified conservation contribution - Historic structures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Qualified conservation contribution - Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Real estate - Residential</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Real estate - Commercial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Real estate - Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Collectibles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Food inventory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Drugs and medical supplies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Taxidermy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Historical artifacts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Scientific specimens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Archeological artifacts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Other ▶ (</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Other ▶ (</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Other ▶ (</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Other ▶ (</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Number of Forms 8283 received by the organization during the tax year for contributions for which the organization completed Form 8283, Part IV, Donee Acknowledgment</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 30a During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1-28 that it must hold for at least three years from the date of the initial contribution, and which is not required to be used for exempt purposes for the entire holding period? | X |
| 31 Does the organization have a gift acceptance policy that requires the review of any non-standard contributions? | X |
| 32a Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell noncash contributions? | X |

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.
FORM 990, PART III, LINE 4B, PROGRAM SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

USEFUL TO JOURNALISTS.

6. PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS: HUNDREDS OF RADIO AND TELEVISION
STATIONS AIR PSA’S DURING THE ELECTION SEASON DIRECTING THEIR AUDIENCES
TO THE PROJECT VOTE SMART RESEARCH HOTLINE AND TO THE ORGANIZATION’S
WEBSITE.

7. PROJECT VOTE SMART BUS TOUR: THE ORGANIZATION USED A BUS OUTFITTED
FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES TO TRAVEL THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES TO
BRING VOTER INFORMATION DIRECTLY INTO COMMUNITIES.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 2: PRESIDENT / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

RICHARD KIMBALL

TREASURER: ADELAIDE ELM KIMBALL

PRESIDENT / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND TREASURER ARE HUSBAND AND WIFE.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11: THE 990 IS PREPARED BY AN
ACCOUNTANT AND THEN REVIEWED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C: CONFLICT OF INTEREST IS DISCUSSED
ANNUALLY AT A BOARD MEETING.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15A: THE BOARD CONSIDERED COMPARABLE
SALARIES WHEN THE SALARY WAS SET IN MARCH 1988 AND HAS GIVEN AN AUTOMATIC
COST OF LIVING INCREASE EACH YEAR BASED ON SOCIAL SECURITY COLA.
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19: THE ORGANIZATION DOES NOT MAKE ITS GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC, BUT DOES POST ITS IRS FORM 990 ON ITS WEBSITE. THE FORM 990 ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF THE ORGANIZATION.
## Form 8868 (Rev. 4-2009)

**Part II Additional (Not Automatic) 3-Month Extension of Time.** Only file the original (no copies needed).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type or print</th>
<th>Name of Exempt Organization</th>
<th>Employer identification number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CENTER FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN POLITICS</td>
<td>85-0364261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ONE COMMON GROUND</td>
<td>PHILIPSBURG, MT 59858</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Check type of return to be filed (File a separate application for each return):

- [X] Form 990
- [ ] Form 990-EZ
- [ ] Form 990-T (sec. 401(a) or 408(a) trust)
- [ ] Form 1041-A
- [ ] Form 5227
- [ ] Form 8870
- [ ] Form 990-BL
- [ ] Form 990-PF
- [ ] Form 990-T (trust other than above)
- [ ] Form 4720
- [ ] Form 6069

STOP! Do not complete Part II if you were not already granted an automatic 3-month extension on a previously filed Form 8868.

- The books are in the care of ONE COMMON GROUND – PHILIPSBURG, MT 59858
- Telephone No. | 406-859-8683 |
- FAX No. | |
- If the organization does not have an office or place of business in the United States, check this box |
- If this is for a Group Return, enter the organization's four digit Group Exemption Number (GEN) . If this is for the whole group, check this box |
- I request an additional 3-month extension of time until FEBRUARY 15, 2011.
- For calendar year APR 1, 2009, or other tax year beginning , and ending MAR 31, 2010 .
- If this tax year is for less than 12 months, check reason: Initial return Final return Change in accounting period
- State in detail why you need the extension SEE STATEMENT 1

8a If this application is for Form 990-BL, 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter the tentative tax, less any nonrefundable credits. See instructions. $ 

8b If this application is for Form 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter any refundable credits and estimated tax payments made. Include any prior year overpayment allowed as a credit and any amount paid previously with Form 8868. $ 

8c Balance Due. Subtract line 8b from line 8a. Include your payment with this form, or, if required, deposit with FTD coupon or, if required, by using EFTPS (Electronic Federal Tax Payment System). See instructions. $ N/A

**Signature and Verification**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this form, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete, and that I am authorized to prepare this form.

Signature [ ]

Title [ ] CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT Date [ ]

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923832 05-26-09

09310204 137273 0108018 2009.05000 CENTER FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE 01080181
EXPLANATION

THE ORGANIZATION HAD ITS NATIONAL DIRECTOR LEAVE THE POSITION AS INFORMATION FOR THE RETURN WAS BEING GATHERED. AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE IS REQUESTED IN ORDER TO FILE AN ACCURATE RETURN WITH COMPLETE DATA.