

Friends of the Mississippi Project

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Albert Stewart and Edward Clarke,
co-chairmen
Willa Dallas, vice-chairman
Ken Champney, secretary
Marie Payton, treasurer

2/10/65

Alicia Kaplow
Madison FSNCC
615 Howard Place
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Alicia,

I'm afraid I can't give you any really authoritative answers on post office recognition as a "non-profit" organization. We have neither applied for nor received the permit. Our last newsletter was mailed by the local Methodist Church using their non-profit permit. This was suggested to us by the local post office; however whether the arrangement is strictly kosher according to P.O. regulations is not clear to me.

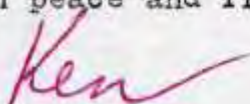
In general, "non-profit" status is granted to organizations whose primary purpose is charitable, educational or religious. Political groups do not qualify. Where a FSNCC group would fall is probably one of those grey areas that could be reasonably decided either way, and the only way to find out is to apply to the Post Office for a permit.

If I recall correctly there is both an initial filing fee and an annual fee for the non-profit permit; and also a minimum requirement on the number of pieces mailed at one time. Your post office could give you the correct information on these points.

Sorry I can't be more helpful to you on this point.

Good to hear that you are supporting 17 volunteers. Do you work primarily through existing church and civil rights groups for this, or are the funds raised independently of other groups?

In peace and freedom,


Ken Champney
Secretary