



**Plastics PAC**  
Political Action Committee

## IAPD Plastics PAC Frequently Asked Questions

### Who can contribute to the IAPD Plastics PAC?

- Only IAPD members can contribute to IAPD Plastics PAC. Contributions to IAPD Plastics PAC cannot be accepted from non-IAPD members.
- If you are hosting your fundraiser after a broader IAPD meeting, do require that non-IAPD members leave the room before you start this portion of the meeting.

### What is prior authorization?

- Due to federal election law IAPD Plastics PAC must seek and obtain the prior written authorization in order to communicate or solicit corporate members of the association.

### What types of contributions can IAPD Plastics PAC accept?

- Personal checks and credit cards are accepted, as is cash under \$100, as long as the cash is directly given to IAPD staff.

### What information must be collected from each contributor?

- The name, address, phone number, employer and occupation of each contributor must be provided with all contributions. (The donation form included in this packet of materials requests all of this information.)
- This information is reported to the Federal Election Commission for all individuals who contribute in aggregate of \$200 per calendar year. IAPD Plastics PAC and all individuals acting on behalf of IAPD Plastics PAC must exercise their best efforts in obtaining this information from each individual contributor.

### Are contributions to IAPD Plastics PAC tax deductible?

- No, IAPD Plastics PAC contributions are not tax deductible.

### How much can an individual contribute to IAPD Plastics PAC in a calendar year?

- Contributors to IAPD Plastics PAC can give a maximum of \$5,000 of personal money per calendar year.
- Foreign nationals may not make contributions to candidates, parties or PAC's at the local, state or federal level.

### Who can pay for the costs of an IAPD Plastics PAC fundraiser?

Corporations and Partnerships – Corporation and Partnership members of IAPD can pay for the cost of events from their business accounts. Because these donations come from member companies, they can be used for covering administrative and solicitation costs of IAPD Plastics PAC and are not considered in-kind contributions and are not reported to the Federal Election Commission. There is no maximum annual contribution for this type of donation. (Should an individual employee of a corporate or partnership member of the IFA opt to cover these costs from their personal account, different rules apply.)

**Example:** Company X helped put on an event for IAPD Plastics PAC. They would like to take care of the event expenses as well. Since they are a partnership for tax purposes, they have decided to cover these costs from the company's business account. This donation is not considered an in-kind contribution and is unlimited.



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## 2016 Donor Club Level Benefits

### **CABINET LEVEL (\$5,000 Contribution):**

- Complimentary access to:
  - VIP Reception during IAPD Convention
  - IAPD Plastics PAC Congressional dinner during the Plastics Industry Fly-Ins
- Recognition in IAPD publications and promotional materials
- IAPD Plastics PAC badge ribbons at IAPD events
- \$5K gold lapel pin
- Quarterly calls with D.C. insiders; for example, Members of Congress, Congressional Committees
- End of year IAPD Plastics PAC thank you gift

### **CONGRESS LEVEL (\$2,500 - \$4,999 Contribution):**

- Recognition in IAPD publications and promotional materials
- IAPD Plastics PAC badge ribbons at IAPD events
- \$2.5K gold lapel pin
- Regular election updates
- Quarterly calls with D.C. insiders; for example, Members of Congress, Congressional Committees

*The IAPD Plastics PAC is a separate segregated fund organized under the Federal Election Campaign Act and was created for the purpose of making contributions to and expenditures on behalf of federal, state and local candidates and other committees. The IAPD Plastics PAC may only receive contributions from U.S. citizens and foreign nationals with permanent residency status in the United States. Contributions to the IAPD Plastics PAC must be from personal funds and may not be reimbursed by any other source. We may not accept contributions by corporate check or corporate credit card.*

*Any decision to contribute to the IAPD Plastics PAC is voluntary. Suggested contribution amounts are merely suggestions, and more or less may be given, if consistent with federal and state law. The amount given, or a decision not to give, will not benefit or disadvantage the person being solicited. Contributions to the IAPD Plastics PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Federal law requires the IAPD Plastics PAC use its best efforts to collect and report the name, address, occupation and employer of any individual who contributes more than \$200 in a calendar year.*

### **CHAIRMAN'S LEVEL (\$1,000 - \$2,499 Contribution):**

- Recognition in IAPD publications and promotional materials
- IAPD Plastics PAC badge ribbons at IAPD events
- \$1K bronze lapel pin
- Regular election updates

### **365 CLUB (Only \$1 per day for the year):**

- Recognition in IAPD publications and promotional materials
- IAPD Plastics PAC badge ribbons at IAPD events
- 365 Club lapel pin
- Regular election updates

### **ALL DONOR LEVELS**

**All donor levels enjoy access to the annual 365 Reception during the IAPD Annual Convention and receive a quarterly IAPD Plastics PAC update via e-mail.**



## IAPD Plastics PAC and the Law

Federal election laws strictly regulate political action committees in their support of candidates for federal office. The IAPD Plastics PAC Advisory Board serves as its official representatives and is expected to have a working knowledge of federal regulations that apply to both fundraising for the PAC and making contributions to candidates.

### WHEN AND WHERE DO FEDERAL ELECTION LAWS APPLY?

- In election campaigns for federal office (i.e., U.S. President, U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives)
- To PACs, individuals and political parties that make contributions to candidates for federal office
  - To individuals and groups which may attempt to influence the outcome of elections for federal office

### INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

- Individuals may give a maximum of \$5,000 per calendar year to the IAPD Plastics PAC
- Individuals may give a maximum of \$2,700 per election to a candidate for federal office — primary, runoff and general elections are each considered separate elections
- Individuals may contribute up to \$33,400 per calendar year to a national political party committee
- Individuals may give a maximum of \$117,000 per cycle year towards federal races of all types — contributions to IAPD Plastics PAC, which supports federal candidates, count toward this individual limit. Candidate contributions count against the election year limit. PAC and party contributions count in the year they are made
- Individuals may not make contributions in the name of another person
- Married couples have separate contribution limits (shown above), even if only one spouse has income
- Federal government contractors may not make contributions to federal candidates, parties or PACs
- Foreign nationals may not make contributions to candidates, parties or PACs at the local, state or federal level

### IAPD PLASTICS PAC LIMITS

- IAPD Plastics PAC MAY NOT ACCEPT CONTRIBUTIONS, EITHER DIRECT OR INDIRECT, FROM CORPORATIONS
- IAPD Plastics PAC may contribute a

- maximum of \$2,700 per election to a candidate for federal office — primary, runoff and general elections are each considered separate elections
- IAPD Plastics PAC may contribute a maximum of \$33,400 per year to national political parties
- May not accept anonymous cash contributions over \$50
- May not accept cash contributions over \$100
- May accept contributions from partnerships and sole proprietorships, provided they are not incorporated

### HARD MONEY VS. SOFT MONEY

“Hard money” is the common term for the limited, disclosed funds raised from individuals and political committees in conformity with the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) limits. “Hard money” contributions are personal contributions that can be used in connection with federal elections. IAPD Plastics PAC accepts only “hard money” contributions.

“Soft money” is the term commonly applied to contributions given to political parties from sources or in amounts that FECA does not regulate. These funds may be spent for state election activity and non-election activity such as issue advertising, “get out the vote” campaigns and other party-building activities. Soft money may not be used in connection with federal elections; therefore IAPD Plastics PAC cannot accept “soft money” contributions.

### WHAT IS CONSIDERED A CONTRIBUTION?

Anything of value given to influence a federal election is considered a contribution, including:

- Money (subject to limits noted above)
- Donated items and services, known as ‘in-kind’ contributions. In-kind contributions are generally valued at their fair market price

### WHAT IS NOT CONSIDERED A CONTRIBUTION?

- Uncompensated personal services provided by volunteers
- Costs paid by volunteers for home events (e.g., costs for food and beverages connected with a home fundraising event) under \$1,000 per candidate per election
- Incidental use of corporate or union facilities in connection with volunteer activities (less than one hour per week or four hours per month)
- Personal travel expenses on behalf of a candidate (under \$1,000 per election); certain types of legal and accounting services to assist candidates in complying with federal election laws (strict and explicit limits apply)
- Partisan communications by trade associations to their members (not the public at large). Strict and explicit limits apply

### PROCESSING PAC CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions received by IAPD Plastics PAC, or individuals acting on IAPD Plastics PAC’s behalf, must be deposited in IAPD Plastics PAC’s bank account within 10 days of receipt.

IAPD Plastics PAC files monthly reports with the Federal Election showing receipts from members and disbursements to candidates.

- The names, addresses, occupations and employers of all individuals who contribute in aggregate of \$200 per calendar year are reported to the Federal Election Commission
- IAPD Plastics PAC and all individuals acting on behalf of the IAPD Plastics PAC must exercise their BEST EFFORTS in obtaining the prior authorization, address, occupation and employer information from each individual contributor

Any illegal contributions (e.g., corporate contributions or contributions received from foreign nationals) received by IAPD Plastics PAC will be returned to the contributors.



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## IAPD Plastics PAC Pledge Form

**Yes, I want to join the IAPD Plastics PAC!**

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**2016 IAPD PLASTICS PAC PLEDGE** I commit to contributing the following amount to the IAPD Plastics PAC in 2016:

\$5,000 (Cabinet Club)

\$2,500 (Congress Club)

\$1,000 (Chairman's Club)

\$365 (365 Club)

Other

### FORM OF PAYMENT

I am enclosing my personal check for the entire contribution amount.

Please make check payable to IAPD Plastics PAC. Only personal funds may be used.

Please charge my credit card in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ One Time \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly.

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fax form to (913) 345-1006 — Attention Susan E. Avery, CAE, IAPD Plastics PAC Treasurer

*Contributions or gifts to the IAPD Plastics PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Corporate checks and credit cards are prohibited by federal law. Contribution amounts included herein are merely suggestions. An individual is free to contribute more or less than the guidelines suggest, but may not contribute more than \$5,000 per year. Federal law requires that our committee report the full name, address, occupation and company name of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.*