

Super PACs are Blurring the Lines with Campaigns

How are they
pushing the limits?

How are they
getting away with it?

Example



Organizing events for candidates

Candidates are posting their schedules freely and Super PACs are attending and inviting many others to the “event”

Bobby Jindal’s Super PAC, Believe Again, held 53 town hall meetings with voters in Iowa



Having similar names to the actual campaign

Candidate names cannot be used in the names of Super PACs, so some have made it an acronym to get around the rule

In June, Carly for America renamed itself to CARLY and America, which stands for Conservative Authentic Responsive Leadership for You and America



Using film of candidates for commercials

Non-Members can get away with this as long as they are filmed before they announced their candidacy

Jeb Bush’s Super PAC, Right Rise, filmed him for a commercial before he announced his candidacy



Posting videos online

Free online content is exempt from campaign finance regulations

Correct the Record uses its social media sites to post content defending Hillary Clinton



Bringing candidates to fundraisers

Candidates can attend the fundraiser as long as they don’t solicit unlimited contributions

Ted Cruz attended a fundraiser for a group of Super PACs over the summer

Analysis

- Super PACs and campaigns cannot coordinate freely, so instead both have started to become creative with coincidental collaborations
- Many of the instances of candidates and Super PACs pushing the limits have not been challenged, but if other candidates view this behavior as inappropriate and a violation of rules, there may be investigations