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ITT Gift for GOP Convention Ruled Legal

Los Angeles

A federal judge ruled Wednesday that the \$100,000 contribution the International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. made to attract the Republican national convention to San Diego was not illegal.

United States District Judge Robert J. Kelleher dismissed the suit brought against ITT by California Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown Jr., who charged the contribution violated the federal corrupt practices act.

The act forbids corporations to make political contributions to federal election campaigns and conventions.

ITT countered that it did not contribute the money to a political campaign, but gave the money to a San Diego civic group to help attract a big convention, a legitimate business expense to promote bookings for three ITT-owned hotels in San Diego.

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