

Subject: FW: Mailer for Culver City Council Race

From: Jay Wierenga <JWierenga@fppc.ca.gov>

Date: 6/1/2018 4:22 PM

To: Zachary Norton <ZNorton@fppc.ca.gov>, Juanita Lira <JLira@fppc.ca.gov>

Here's what I have between me and Hadland. There is one more coming regarding Hadland.

Jay Wierenga
Fair Political Practices Commission
Communications Director
(916) 322-7761 office
jwierenga@fppc.ca.gov

From: Jay Wierenga

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 3:11 PM

To: 'publisher@culvercityobserver.com' <publisher@culvercityobserver.com>

Subject: RE: Mailer for Culver City Council Race

I need to know the names of either or both, the person who filed the complaint, the person/group facing the complaint.

Jay Wierenga
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From: publisher@culvercityobserver.com [<mailto:publisher@culvercityobserver.com>]

Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2018 12:11 PM

To: Jay Wierenga <JWierenga@fppc.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: Mailer for Culver City Council Race

Jay,

I've been told that two complaints have been filed with the FPPC on this matter. Can you confirm that information for me.

All the Best,

Steve

Stephen Hadland
Publisher
Observer Newspapers
4346 Sepulveda Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 503-4145

From: Jay Wierenga <JWierenga@fppc.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 5:19 PM
To: publisher@culvercityobserver.com
Subject: RE: Mailer for Culver City Council Race

Stephen,

Just noticed your story. I don't recall saying or writing anything about us being advised of the possible violation of California State Election codes as this states... "When contacted, the Fair Political Practices Commission said "it appears no such organization exists"and noted they been advised of the possible violation of California State Election codes."

First of all, we don't administer 'California State Election codes'. The Secretary of State monitors elections, and election code is not in our section of law. We only have jurisdiction over the Political Reform Act, so I would never and did not say anything about California State Election codes. I also do not recall and would likely not say we've been advised of a possible violation... I only say what I/we can say, that if we receive a complaint, we can confirm receipt of a complaint. No mention was made asking me/us if we received a complaint, so therefore I wouldn't have said that 'we'd been advised of a violation'. We did look up to see if there was a committee on file with the Secretary of State, and there did not appear to be.

I don't think this is an accurate description at all. The only response we gave is in the following email, which is in this email chain... which is all I/we said about this because, as you can see in the email, there's no way of knowing without knowing how much money was spent.

Jay Wierenga
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From: Jay Wierenga
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 1:29 PM
To: 'publisher@culvercityobserver.com' <publisher@culvercityobserver.com>
Subject: RE: Mailer for Culver City Council Race

Stephen,

So, there's no real way of knowing, because it depends on what/who is behind this. So, one option is that it COULD be a committee, as it looks like a recipient committee based on the name. If it's a true, independent expenditure committee, then the flyer should include the name of the entity.

At the very least a Form 496 should be filed if these filers cost \$2,000 or more (\$1,000 for each candidate opposed). Keep in mind, the threshold for a person/group to become a committee is \$2,000.

However, if this is a one-time thing, perhaps it's the first activity and the total cost of the flyer was less than \$2,000... then there is no registration required nor a sender ID requirement.

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From: publisher@culvercityobserver.com [<mailto:publisher@culvercityobserver.com>]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 4:47 PM

To: jaywierenga@fppc.ca.gov

Cc: Press <Press@fppc.ca.gov>

Subject: Mailer for Culver City Council Race

Jay,

Attached please find the flyer that was delivered to the residents throughout Culver City. I find nothing on this group calling themselves, AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR CULVER CITY RESIDENTS FIRST.

I do not see this as a registered group with the FPPC or the Culver City Clerk's office.

Please advise.

All the Best,

Steve

Stephen Hadland
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