

Response to 28 Nov. 2017 complaints by Glen Morgan against Zita for Port

To: AG's office
Cc to: PDC
From: E.J. Zita
Date: 8 Jan. 2018

Timeline of complaints, notices, and responses:

1 Nov. 2017 - complaint from Michael Blocher (via PDC)
10 Nov. 2017 - Zita's response
15 Dec. 2017 - overlapping complaints from Blocher and Glenn Morgan (via PDC and AG's office)
8 Jan. 2018 - Zita responses RE Morgan and Blocher sent to AG's office and PDC
13 Jan. 2018 - Zita response due

Of the 12 complaints by Glen Morgan on 28 Nov. 2017, 11 concern details such as C3 and C4 filings by the Zita for Port campaign treasurer. Those concerns are addressed in an attached response by Mr. Hansen, our campaign treasurer (serving in this role for his first time, while simultaneously caring for his first newborn child, and starting a new job out of town).

Morgan's complaint #12 alleges "illegal use of public facilities for campaign purposes. This is essentially the same as Michael Blocher's complaint from Nov. 2017.

Morgan's complaint #12 is discharged in Comm. Zita's attached response to the latest Blocher complaint.

Morgan concludes by charging that "many of them happened in spite of previous PDC complaints filed and in spite of a clear warning letter issued by the PDC to the Zita campaign about these violations."

It is certainly true that Morgan filed "previous PDC complaints." Zita for Port responded to them as well. However, Glen Morgan tends to exaggerate.

In fact, the PDC declined to conduct an investigation into Morgan's previous complaints (from May 2017 on our 2015 campaign). The PDC warned that "For example, no expenditure for a post office box was reported." That an expense for the box should have been reported as "rent waived in anticipation of a future expenditure," although no fee was directly charged for the box, was a surprise to our experienced 2015 treasurer (Ms. Westbrook).

That was an honest oversight, and the filings were duly amended on the advice of the PDC. I am grateful to the Zita for Port campaign treasurers for learning how to negotiate such expectations, and to the PDC for their clarification.

If Zita for Port had any lapses in campaign fund reporting or anything else, they were certainly unintentional, not "malicious violations" as Morgan charges.

We aim to meet all requirements of law, ethics, and fairness. We respect the judgment of the PDC and the Attorney General's Office in these matters, and appreciate your clarification of unfamiliar requirements.

Thank you again for your time and trouble. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely - Dr. E.J. Zita
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