Respondent Names

Ranked Choice Voting for Clark County

Complainant Name

Bill Bangs

Complaint Description

Bill Bangs

Tue, 15 Nov 2022 at 6:06 PM

The respondents posted a web page to the voters of Clark County (see attached file with the offending information inside the red rectangle) that contained a list of the "Top Five Contributors". The alleged second top contributor, FairVote Washington, is a Washington State entity but is, in fact, only the fourth of the Top Five. The top two contributors are FAIRVOTE ACTION, a Maryland corporation ACTION NOW INC, a Texas corporation, which engage in lobbying and campaign financing on the national level. That is, the list of Top Five Contributors is incorrect and misleading. Voters are led to believe that the major sponsor of the proposed amendment to a local county charter are an individual and a Washington nonprofit organization. The truth is that the major sponsors are national lobbying firms with no knowledge or interest in the local needs for electoral reform. The incorrect listing of top contributors misleads the voters as to the true source of campaign funding.

What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?

The public (the voters) are being misled by errors and omissions in the list of top five contributors provided on the website advertising the campaign. The voters are led to believe that the top contributor is an individual and that a Washington entity is one of the top three. In fact, the top two contributors are foreign (out of state) lobbying firms, one in Texas and one in Maryland. The voters are unaware that the major support for the ballot measure does not come from entities with a committed interest in the affairs of Clark County.

List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found

A clip from the offending website (https://fairvotewa.org/campaigns/clark-county-campaign/) is provided with the alleged Top Five Contributors highlihted in red.

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

All registered voters in Clark County who may have visited the campaign website for the committee: Ranked Choice Voting for Clark County.

Certification (Complainant)

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Mis-statement of Top 5 Contributors to "rcvforclarkcountycampaign" As found on FAIRVOTE-WASHINGTON website: https://fairvotewa.org/campaigns/clark-county-campaign/



The reported contributions to this campaign are found on the PDC website:

https://www.pdc.wa.gov/political-disclosure-reporting-data/browse-search-data/committees/co-2022-30394/contributions

Note that Robert Poore was only the third top contributor (with a total of \$30,700).

The top two contributors (at \$50,000 each) were

ACTION NOW INC (Houston, TX) and FAIRVOTE ACTION FUND (Takoma Park, MD).

FairVote Washington provided two in-kind donations valued at \$15,466 and was only the fourth top contributor. Rebecca Liebman and Shel Kaphan were not in the top five.

The Top Two Contributors (from Texas and Maryland) were not listed in the top five.