

OFFICE OF  
GENERAL COUNSEL

Los Angeles, CA 90066

May 25, 2018

2018 MAY 32 AM 6:59

Office of General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20463

MUR # 7399

2018 JUN -1 AM 7:01

OFFICE OF  
GENERAL COUNSEL

RE: Amendment to complaint MUR7309 against Crowdpc (crowdpc.com)

To whom it may concern,

I would like to amend my existing complaint against Crowdpc to add new information and another signatory, Frank DeMartini. Mr. DeMartini is running as a Republican for California's 43<sup>rd</sup> congressional district and as such is an interested party. You can see more on his campaign at [demartini2018.com](http://demartini2018.com). My own campaign for the 37<sup>th</sup> district is at [ronfor37.org](http://ronfor37.org).

I'd also like to submit as new evidence Crowdpc's latest post on Medium.com, stating their new policy of suspending all Republican campaigns in the interests of "fighting Trumpism". I've attached the first page of that article with a hyperlink to the rest, along with a copy of my original complaint.

What started out in my initial complaint as a feeling of unfairness now stands out as definite fact; Crowdpc is now a Democrat political action committee. Yet they have no associated regulations under the FEC or IRS, and can operate as an ordinary for-profit corporation.

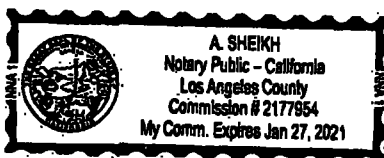
Crowdpc didn't start out this way. Steve Hilton founded the company with the stated intent that it be a non-partisan platform. He has since left the company over their latest decision. The remaining organization needs to be held accountable.

Sincerely,

Ron Bassilian

Frank DeMartini

Signed and sworn to before me to the best of their knowledge, under penalty of perjury:



A. Sheikh, notary public

1408244-1-25-18

C

Crowdpac Follow

www.Crowdpac.com—Your platform for political action.

May 14 · 7 min read

## A stand against Trumpism, a stand for democracy

Our community has rejected Trumpism, we're rejecting it too.

—Jesse Thomas, Acting CEO of Crowdpac



Crowdpac was started in Menlo Park by Steve Hilton, Gisel Kordestani, and Adam Bonica in 2013 as an experiment to help bring more Americans into the political process. They started a company in which a diverse and ideologically open group of students, engineers, designers, and political veterans worked to bring more people into the political process as voters, donors, or candidates.

Crowdpac ultimately built a crowdfunding tool that became the fastest way for emerging leaders to raise their first political dollars. First-time candidates can now collect credit-card backed pledges of support to test the viability of their campaigns.

19944417427

Los Angeles, CA 90066

January 8, 2018

Office of General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: complaint against Crowdpac (crowdpac.com)

To whom it may concern,

I would like to file a complaint against Crowdpac for operating as a "Certified B Corporation" while their behavior clearly is that of a Democrat PAC. They seem almost indistinguishable from ActBlue, a professed "nonprofit political action committee registered... with the IRS as a 527 political organization."

Ostensibly, Crowdpac says they are an independent platform driven by anonymous non-partisan data. But if you look at both their landing page and their Facebook feed, they exclusively feature Democrat candidates. More so, they are raising money for Democrats in strategic districts against Republican incumbents.

I have raised a request for equal time with such a candidate, Jess Phoenix, for taking a partisan stand on climate change. But they refused my request on January 27. Over a week later, she's still on their front page, and they fund ads for her on Facebook. They've helped this total unknown raise over \$100,000.

I understand that it's hard to account for trending campaigns, but it seems they hide behind their algorithm. Especially considering *half their trending campaigns haven't raised any money in the past week*. Their slant for Democrats bears no resemblance to what the two major parties raise by traditional means. Not to mention, their Facebook page seems to be completely manual, and is completely partisan Democrat politics.

Some examples off their Facebook feed: Join the "resistance". Help the "blue wave". The man with two moms is running! Save Net Neutrality. Jess Phoenix the "climate change Democrat". There's even a "project witch hunt" which literally promotes witch hunts against Republican candidates. I tried bringing up this bias on their Facebook page but their response was to ban me from further comments.

I should also point out several other local Republican candidates have opened up to me about how the site is failing to perform for them, even holding back thousands of dollars of donations due to rejected transactions. Edwin Duterte, Frank DeMartini, and Omar Navarro are other local Republicans who certainly matched these trending campaigns. Though they are not ready to file a complaint themselves I am keeping them abreast of the situation.

I am enclosing some other pieces of evidence of this violation:

1. Screenshots of their crowdpac.com landing page, spaced one week apart (12/27/17 and 1/4/18)
2. Screenshots of their sponsored Facebook ads, all for Jess Phoenix.

3. My email thread with them directly discussing this bias

If the formatting here is rough, please understand I am not a professional candidate or politician. I'm a private citizen who's decided to run for Congress in California's 37<sup>th</sup> district. My hope is that the Complaints process is simple and accessible enough where you can take this grievance, investigate it further, and make a just assessment of the merits of the case.

You may contact me anytime at the above address, at [info@ronfor37.org](mailto:info@ronfor37.org) or on my cell at  
Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Ron Bassilian

Signed and sworn to before me to the best of his knowledge, under penalty of perjury:

**See attached certificate** Notary public

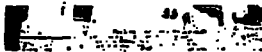
Addendums:

Crowdpac trending page, 12/27/2017



Zach Wahls is running for Iowa State Senate

Remember the voters of the young man took issue with his sexual orientation.  
Check out his campaign.



**This is our chance to make gerrymandering unconstitutional**

Created by Arundhati Ramani

\$143,128  
Raised

4,038  
Donations



**Joy Silver. Relentlessly Progressive. Joyously Persistent. Helping the 28th**

Created by Joy Silver

\$10,488  
Raised

88  
Donations



**Rise Up and Send an Earth Scientist to Congress**

Created by Peter Heger

\$70,210  
Raised

1,000  
Donations



**Put Marge in Charge!**

Created by Marge Dayle



**LET'S CLEAN HOUSE!**

Created by Brandon S. Peters



**Attorney and Educator Seeks to Build Coalitions for a Better Arkansas**

Created by Nicole Chirney

10001442001

**CALIFORNIA JURAT WITH AFFIANT STATEMENT**

**GOVERNMENT CODE § 8202**

- See Attached Document (Notary to cross out lines 1-6 below)
- See Statement Below (Lines 1-6 to be completed only by document signer[s], not Notary)

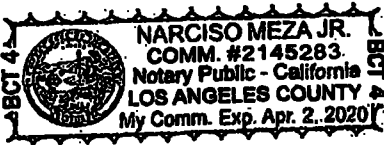
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Document Signer No. 1*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Document Signer No. 2 (if any)*

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California  
 County of Los Angeles

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me  
 on this 9 day of January, 2018.  
 by Ron Bassilian  
 (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (and (2) \_\_\_\_\_),  
*Name(s) of Signer(s)*



proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence  
 to be the person(s) who appeared before me.

Narciso Meza Jr.  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Notary Public*

*Seal*  
 Place Notary Seal Above

**OPTIONAL**

Though this section is optional, completing this information can deter alteration of the document or fraudulent reattachment of this form to an unintended document.

**Description of Attached Document**

Title or Type of Document: Complaint against Crowdpac Document Date: Jan. 9, 2018  
 Number of Pages: 3 Signer(s) Other Than Named Above: \_\_\_\_\_

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Republican in California's 25th congressional district (Palmdale) based on her vow to fight climate change. As a Republican candidate in the 37th district, I'd like to make a request for equal time. I have my own stance on the issue, considering Republicans are quite maligned on the topic. <https://www.crowdpac.com/campaigns/347150/ron-bassilian/updates/1572> Let me know if you can help out in any way. Thank you. - Ron Bassilian

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