

**MUR 8124  
SUPPLEMENT****RECEIVED**  
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

AUGUST 2, 2023 9:56 AM

**OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL**

**From:** [Michael Henry](#)  
**To:** [Enforcement Complaints](#)  
**Cc:** [ogccela](#); [trustees@orlandpark.org](#); [Dennis G. Walsh](#); [Keith Pekau](#); [Howard C. Jablecki](#); [George Koczwara](#)  
**Subject:** Supplement to FEC Complaint Against Keith Pekau, Pekau for Congress, William Healey its treasurer, William Healy, Cindy Nelson Katsenes, Michael Milani, Sean Kampas and Joni Radaszewski  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 2, 2023 9:56:21 AM  
**Attachments:** [Mayor Keith Pekau was Running Federal Congressional Campaign, Raising Money from City Contractors, From Taxpayer-Funded Village Hall, FOIA Requests Reveal - Illinois Review.pdf](#)

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**Please supplement this complaint with the attached News article detailing the Violation of Federal law by all**

**Trustees of Orland Park and Pekau.**

*The Supreme Court has made clear that government officials cannot use their office or power to coerce participation or to punish for lack of participation in political campaigns..."*

Michael F. Henry  
P.O. Box 21  
Palos Park, Illinois 60464

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# Mayor Keith Pekau was Running Federal Congressional Campaign, Raising Money from City Contractors, From Taxpayer-Funded Village Hall, FOIA Requests Reveal

By: [Illinois Review](#) August 1, 2023

**By Illinois Review**

A recent Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, and provided to Illinois Review, revealed that Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau and village trustees were using their official taxpayer-funded government email

addresses to communicate with members of Pekau's congressional campaign team to discuss political activities, and to review a list of current contractors doing business with the village, so they could gather donations for a golf outing fundraiser at Crystal Tree Golf & Country Club last September.



The poster features a light blue background with a subtle pattern of horizontal lines. At the top, the name "Keith" is in a large, black, sans-serif font, with a small star above the "i". Below it, "PEKAU" is in a very large, bold, black, sans-serif font. Underneath "PEKAU", the word "CONGRESS" is in a smaller, bold, black, sans-serif font. To the left of "CONGRESS" is a stylized graphic of a golf club head. Below the name, the text "3rd Annual Golf Outing" is written in a large, red, cursive font. At the bottom left, there is a green graphic of three leaves. To the right of the leaves, the text "CRYSTAL TREE" is in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by "GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB" in a smaller, bold, black, sans-serif font, and "10700 W 153rd St, Orland Park, IL" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the word "Monday" is partially visible on the left, and "Registration: 1:00pm" is on the right.

Keith  
**PEKAU**  
**CONGRESS**

*3rd Annual Golf Outing*

 **CRYSTAL TREE**  
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB  
10700 W 153rd St, Orland Park, IL

Monday **Registration: 1:00pm**



(Source: Keith Pekau for Congress)

In a correspondence dated July 25, 2022, **Tom Dubelbeis** – a former village trustee and former interim village manager, is communicating with the mayor, his campaign team and village trustees Cindy Nelson Katsenes, Michael Milani, Bill Healy, Sean Kampas and Brian Riordan on their official government email accounts about a "Keith golf outing planning meeting." In the email, Dubelbeis writes,

*"Team,*

*Please plan on attending a planning meeting for Keith's golf outing. Thursday July 28th, 4 pm @ my house. The rules for congressional fund raising and golf outings are more restrictive than we're used to. So, get your creative juices going so we can develop a plan to raise \$120K for Keith. RSVP.*

*Thanks,*

*Tom"*

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**From:** Tom Dubelbeis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 9:31 AM  
**To:** Cindy Nelson Katsenes; Michael R. Milani; Bill Healy; Keith Pekau; Sean Kampas; Joseph Solek; Brian Riordan; Abbey Corbett; ryan@corestrategies.com  
**Subject:** Keith golf outing planning meeting

[External Mail] Use caution with links and attachments.

Team,

Please plan on attending a planning meeting for Keith's golf outing. Thursday July 28th, 4pm @ my house [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The rules for congressional fund raising and golf outings are more restrictive than we're used to. So, get your creative juices going so we can develop a plan to raise \$120K for Keith.

RSVP [REDACTED]

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Dubelbeis

[REDACTED]  
US Army 70-72



Source: Village of Orland Park FOIA Request

Minutes later, Trustee Michael Milani replies from his official government email account, *"As of now, I will be able to make it."*

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**From:** Michael R. Milani [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2022 9:42 AM  
**To:** Tom Dubelbeis  
**Cc:** Cindy Nelson Katsenes; Bill Healy; Keith Pekau; Sean Kampas; Joseph Solek; Brian Riordan; Abbey Corbett; ryan@corestrategies.com  
**Subject:** Re: Keith golf outing planning meeting

[External Mail] Use caution with links and attachments.

As of now, I will be able to make it.

Thanks!  
Michael R. Milani  
[REDACTED]

On Jul 25, 2022, at 9:30 AM, Tom Dubelbeis [REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED]

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Source: Village of Orland Park FOIA Request

In September, the emails continued, but Trustee Brian Riordan, an attorney – is no longer on the email distribution list – most likely removing himself from the conversation – well aware that you cannot mix official government business with political campaign activities.

But in a follow up email dated September 10, 2022, Dubelbeis writes,

*"Team,*

*I've contacted 23 of the names on the list and need help with the rest. Again, gray and green have either been contacted or paid.*

*The names with X's still need to be contacted. Please review the list and let me know who you can contact.*

*Regards,*

*Tom"*

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**From:** Tom Dubelbeis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 10, 2022 7:26 AM  
**To:** Abbey Corbett; Cindy Nelson Katsenes; Bill Healy; Michael Milani; Sean Kampas; Joni Rad; Keith Pekau; Joseph Solek  
**Subject:** golf outing  
**Attachments:** Pekau Golf Outing Sponsor List 2020-2022 9-6-2022 (4).xlsx

[External Mail] Use caution with links and attachments.

Team,

I've contacted 23 of the names on the list and need help with the rest. Again, gray and green have either been contacted or paid.

The names with X's still need to be contacted. Please review the list and let me know who you can contact.

Regards,

Tom

Tom Dubelbeis

[REDACTED]

US Army 70-72



Source: Village of Orland Park FOIA Request

Attached to the email was a list of businesses that Pekau and his fellow trustees were trying to solicit for federal campaign donations – with many of those companies doing business with the village.

NAME	LEVEL	#	2020	2021	2022	FIRST	LAST	EMAIL	PHONE
Goldy Locks	Tee		\$150			Robin	Bocek		
Bettenhausen Auto Group	Tee			\$250		John	Doolin		
Bob Hord	Course		\$5,800			Bob	Hord		
Citizens for Brian Riordan	Tee			\$950		Brian	Riordan		
Citizens for Joni Radaszewski	Tee			\$350		Paul	Shaheen		
Citizens for Michael Milani	Tee			\$250		Michael	Milani		
Complete Collision	Tee	X	\$150						
Core and Main	Tee			\$650		Chad	Capps		
David Sosin	Tee			\$850		David	Sosin		
Edwards Realty Group	Tee		\$1,050	\$250		Taylor	Blagrove		
Fox's Pizza	Dinner		\$2,500			Frank	Fox		
G.E. Mathis Company	Tee		\$800	\$950		Paul	Mathis		
Gardiner, Koch, Weissberg & Wrona	Cocktail		\$1,000	\$250		Tom	Gardiner		
International Imports	Tee		\$150						
Jeanes Construction	Tee	X		\$350		Donald	Jeanes		
Jeanne Johnson	Tee				\$250	Jeanne	Johnson		
Jim Adamek	Tee		\$1,450	\$250		Jim	Adamek		
Joe Rizza Enterprises	Course		\$5,000			Dan	McMillan		
Joe Solek	Tee			\$250		Joe	Solek		
Kaspar Law Company	Cocktail		\$1,000			Scott	Kaspar		
Katie Mulrenin	Tee				\$1,050	Katie	Mulrenin		
Keller Williams Elite	Tee	X	\$1,050						
Mazda of Orland Park	Tee		\$150	\$250		Eric	Vates		
MPI Media	Tee		\$150	\$250		Malik	Ali		
Original Pancake House	Tee	X		\$250		Lisa	LaRoche-Szurek		

████████████████████

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the page, obscuring all text and graphics. The box is positioned centrally and extends nearly to the top and bottom margins. Only the header and footer information remain visible.

In January, Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot's campaign faced potential legal trouble when emails revealed campaign staffers were contacting **Chicago Public School** teachers and asking them to identify students who could volunteer on the mayor's re-election campaign.

The **American Civil Liberties Union** of Illinois immediately raised an alarm – citing a US Supreme Court case, saying the Lightfoot campaign *“is inappropriately coercive and raises First Amendment concerns. The Supreme Court has made clear that government officials cannot use their office or power to coerce participation or to punish for lack of participation in political campaigns...”*

In other words, Mayor Pekau and village trustees – who oversee village contractors – cannot use their office to persuade people to donate to political campaigns – and in this case, the mayor’s congressional campaign.

The list – provided by Dubelbeis, includes several city contractors, including Edwards Realty Group, Fox’s Pizza, G.E. Mathis Company, Jeanes Construction, Joe Rizza Enterprises, Mazda of Orland Park and Ziegler Auto Group.

In March of 2022, Pekau and the village board voted in favor of signing a six-figure consulting agreement with one of the mayor’s biggest donors to develop village-owned property along one of Orland Park’s busiest corridors – **Edwards Realty**.

In November of 2022, the village board voted to reimburse Edwards Realty up to \$1 million in potential costs as it related to the development project, and could assist in the purchase of the village-owned land.

Ramzi Hassan is the president of Edwards Realty and the current president of the Orland Park Chamber of Commerce.

On December 27, 2022, Hassan made a \$5,000 personal contribution to Chicago Mayor **Lori Lightfoot** in support of her failed re-election efforts.









*Edwards Realty and Orland Park Chamber of Commerce president Ramzi Hassan and former Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot.*

Eric Vates, the president of Orland Park Mazda – and a close friend and ally of Pekau, is routinely seen at local community events wearing official Orland Park Police gear and a badge – giving the impression that he is a member of law enforcement.

Orland Park Trustee Sean Kampas, an IT consultant and close friend and ally of Pekau is also seen during community events wearing an official Orland Park Police Emergency Services polo with an official police badge attached to his belt – giving the impression that he is a member of law enforcement.

In Illinois, it is unlawful to impersonate a police officer, and a **Class 4 Felony**, punishable by up to three years in jail and \$25,000 in fines.





*Eric Vates, left, of Orland Park Mazda, Sean Kampas, center, an IT consultant and Village Trustee, and Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau pose for a photo during a community event last Summer. Vates and Kampas are wearing official Orland Park Police uniforms and a badge, even though they are not law enforcement.*

In March, Pekau and Kampas were caught **harassing** female Orland Fire Protection District candidates Angela Greenfield and Tina Zekich and their volunteers as they campaigned and knocked on doors in a local neighborhood just a week before the April elections.

Pekau and Kampas spent the morning following the group in Pekau's Dodge Durango as they walked a nearby neighborhood to knock on doors and drop off literature.

Although Pekau and Kampas never got out of the car, numerous witnesses said the pair continued to follow the group as they knocked on doors – staring at them through the car windows in a sad attempt at intimidating the group of volunteers who were campaigning on behalf of candidates that they opposed.

Healy is a village trustee and served as the treasurer of Pekau's congressional campaign. Healy is also a treasurer for other trustee candidate committees.

## Committee information

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**Committee name:** PEKAU FOR CONGRESS

**Mailing address:** PO BOX 2416  
ORLAND PARK, IL 60462

**Treasurer:** HEALY, WILLIAM

**Committee type:** House

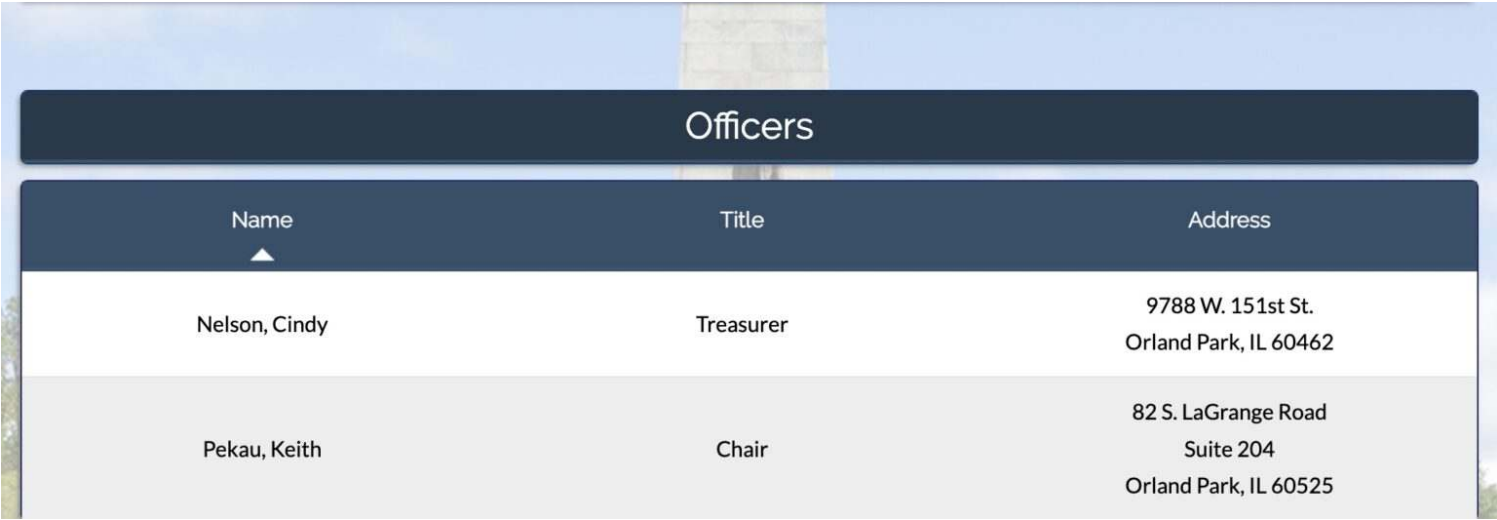
**Committee designation:** Principal campaign committee

**Statement of organization:**  Current version (PDF)  
FEC-1689656  
Filed 02/17/2023

(Source: Federal Election Commission website)

Nelson-Katsenes is a village trustee, Orland Township committeewoman and serves as the treasurer for Pekau’s mayoral campaign.

Candidates				
Name	Address	District Type	Office	District
<a href="#">Pekau, Keith</a>	10640 Bonnie Glen Pl Orland Park, IL 60462	Village	President	Orland Park



The screenshot shows a web page with a header titled "Officers" in a dark blue bar. Below this is a table with three columns: "Name", "Title", and "Address". The table has two rows of data. The first row, for Cindy Nelson, is on a white background. The second row, for Keith Pekau, is on a light gray background. The "Name" column has a small upward-pointing triangle icon below the header. The background of the page shows a blurred image of a building.

Name	Title	Address
Nelson, Cindy	Treasurer	9788 W. 151st St. Orland Park, IL 60462
Pekau, Keith	Chair	82 S. LaGrange Road Suite 204 Orland Park, IL 60525

(Source: Illinois State Board of Elections website)

And in an email to constituents from the "Keith for Mayor" account in August of 2022, Pekau provides a recap from the last village trustee board meeting and then pivots to promote his congressional campaign and his upcoming golf fundraiser on September 26th.

The new revelations shed light on the inner workings of Pekau’s congressional campaign, and will undoubtedly catch the attention of state and federal election officials.

