

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

APRIL 23, 2024 1:55 PM

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the matter of:

MARTIN WILLIAM DOLAN
H4NY16079

MUR **8249**

MARTYDOLANFORCONGRESS
MARTIN WILLIAM DOLAN, TREASURER
C00853259

COMPLAINT

Complainant Justice Democrats PAC is a PAC with a Non-Contribution Account, C00630665.

This complaint is filed with the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") in accordance with the provisions of 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(1) in the belief that Respondents violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, 52 U.S.C. §§ 30101 *et. seq.* (the "Act"). As described below, the April Quarterly report filed by MartyDolanForCongress, with Dolan as its Treasurer, is riddled with errors and blatant recordkeeping and reporting violations of the Act.

The Act's reporting requirements are crucial to ensure that the general public knows who is funding and working on campaigns – the report filed by MartyDolanForCongress flagrantly simply disregards these disclosure requirements. The Commission should penalize Dolan and his candidate committee accordingly.

FACTS

1. **Martin Dolan** is a candidate for United States Congress in New York's Fourteenth Congressional District ("Dolan"). **MartyDolanForCongress**, with Dolan as its Treasurer, is his authorized campaign committee. MartyDolanForCongress registered with the FEC in October 2023, first to run in New York's Sixteenth District, and then changed districts on March 7, 2024.¹

¹ FEC Form 1, MartyDolanForCongress, at <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/C00853259/1729168/>, Amended Form at <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/C00853259/1762411/> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

2. As Treasurer, Dolan is responsible for ensuring that reporting and recordkeeping requirements of the Act are met.
3. On April 15, MartyDolanForCongress filed its April Quarterly report (“April Quarterly Report”, the “Report”).²
4. The filed Report contains multiple material errors that amount to violations of the Act, and a clear disregard for the Act’s reporting and recordkeeping requirements:
 - a. The Report lists the candidate’s district as New York’s Sixteenth District, opposed to New York’s Fourteenth District, despite the fact that Dolan has filed a FEC Form 2 to run in the Fourteenth District.³
 - b. **Contributions, Schedule A, Line 11a:**
 - i. The Report does not show compliance with best efforts rules for obtaining occupations and employers: it lists “unknown” for occupation and employer instead of “information requested” and no other note on report indicating that there has been follow up has been made to obtain that information. *All donors, other than himself, are missing occupations and employers.*⁴

By way of example, three entries are shown below, but in total **23 donors totaling \$14,000 are disclosed this way.**

² FEC, MartyDolanForCongress, April Quarterly Report (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

³ FEC Form 2, Martin William Dolan (filed March 7, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/H4NY16079/1762333/>; April Quarterly Report, page 1 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

⁴ April Quarterly Report, pages 5-12 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

A. Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Askin, Matthew, , ,			Date of Receipt M M / D D / Y Y Y Y 03 / 31 / 2024	
Mailing Address 18 Maple Terrace			Transaction ID : SA11AI.4142	
City Maplewood	State NJ	Zip Code 07040		
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee.		C		
Name of Employer unknown		Occupation unknown		
Receipt For: 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		Election Cycle-to-Date ▼ 250.00		
			Amount of Each Receipt this Period 250.00	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item Donation	
B. Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Bergstein, Joel, , ,			Date of Receipt M M / D D / Y Y Y Y 03 / 14 / 2024	
Mailing Address 360 East 88th Street			Transaction ID : SA11AI.4184	
City NY	State NY	Zip Code 10128		
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee.		C		
Name of Employer unknown		Occupation unknown		
Receipt For: 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		Election Cycle-to-Date ▼ 500.00		
			Amount of Each Receipt this Period 500.00	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item Donation	
C. Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Bergstein, Lance, , ,			Date of Receipt M M / D D / Y Y Y Y 03 / 14 / 2024	
Mailing Address 389 East 89th Street			Transaction ID : SA11AI.4186	
City NY	State NY	Zip Code 10128		
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee.		C		
Name of Employer unknown		Occupation unknown		
Receipt For: 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		Election Cycle-to-Date ▼ 500.00		
			Amount of Each Receipt this Period 500.00	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item Donation	

- ii. A 24th donor, Zar Yakov, is missing any occupation or employer entry, despite having given greater than \$200.⁵

⁵ April Quarterly Report, page 12 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Zar Yakov			Date of Receipt M = M / D = D / Y = Y Y = Y Y 03 / 13 / 2024	
C. Mailing Address 50 West 17th St			Transaction ID : SA11AI.4194	
City NY	State NY	Zip Code 10011		
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C			Amount of Each Receipt this Period 250.00	
Name of Employer		Occupation	<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item Donation	
Receipt For: 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		Election Cycle-to-Date 250.00		

iii. The first name of donor “J Wiesen” is not disclosed.⁶


Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Wiesen, J, , ,			Date of Receipt M = M / D = D / Y = Y Y = Y Y 03 / 13 / 2024	
A. Mailing Address 62 Candlewood Road			Transaction ID : SA11AI.4188	
City Scarsdale	State NY	Zip Code 10583		
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C			Amount of Each Receipt this Period 250.00	
Name of Employer unknown		Occupation unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item Donation	
Receipt For: 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		Election Cycle-to-Date 250.00		

iv. MartyDolanForCongress does not report any contributions received through ActBlue, despite ActBlue having reported receiving and disbursing contributions to the committee – the report shows \$0 in unitemized contributions on the April Quarterly Report, but it received \$12 in ActBlue contributions.⁷

⁶ April Quarterly Report, page 12 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

⁷ See ActBlue, disbursements to MartyDolanForCongress at https://www.fec.gov/data/disbursements/?data_type=processed&committee_id=C00401224&recipient_name=C00853259&two_year_transaction_period=2024 (last accessed April 17, 2024).

Of note, MartyDolanForCongress' Year-End report is missing nearly \$2,982 in ActBlue contributions that were not reported, including five that should have been itemized. ActBlue, disbursements to MartyDolanForCongress at

ACTBLUE 	Recipient	State	Description	Disbursement date 	Amount	
ACTBLUE	MARTYDOLANFORCONGRESS	NY	EARMARK CONTRIBUTION	02/11/2024	\$6.00	
ACTBLUE	MARTYDOLANFORCONGRESS	NY	EARMARK CONTRIBUTION	01/14/2024	\$6.00	

c. Expenditures, Schedule B, Line 17:

- i. The campaign paid Common Sense America \$7,500 on March 28th, but failed to include a purpose for the disbursement.⁸

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) A. Common Sense America			Date of Disbursement M M / D D / Y Y Y Y 03 / 28 / 2024	
Mailing Address 3722 Las Vegas Boulevard				
City Las Vegas	State NV	Zip Code 89158	FEC Identification Number C H4NY16079	
Purpose of Disbursement		Category/ Type 005	Amount of Each Disbursement this Period 7500.00	
Candidate Name Dolan, Martin, , ,		Transaction ID : SB17.4213		
Office Sought: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate <input type="checkbox"/> President	Disbursement For: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item	
State: NY	District: 14			

- ii. The Report appears to have aggregated all taxis taken in March into one disbursement, on March 27th for \$315.82.⁹

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) B. Curb (NY Taxis)			Date of Disbursement M M / D D / Y Y Y Y 03 / 27 / 2024	
Mailing Address 11-11 34th Avenue				
City Long Island City	State NY	Zip Code 11106	FEC Identification Number C H4NY16079	
Purpose of Disbursement Taxis in March 2024		Category/ Type	Amount of Each Disbursement this Period 315.82	
Candidate Name Dolan, Martin, , ,		Transaction ID : SB17.4262		
Office Sought: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate <input type="checkbox"/> President	Disbursement For: 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item	
State: NY	District: 14			

https://www.fec.gov/data/disbursements/?data_type=processed&committee_id=C00401224&recipient_name=C00853259&two_year_transaction_period=2024 (last accessed April 17, 2024).

⁸ April Quarterly Report, page 17 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

⁹ Id.

- iii. The Report fails to report any potential memo entries for expense reimbursement of \$1,000 to Parker DeDeker on March 28th.¹⁰

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) C. DeDeker, Parker, , ,		Date of Disbursement MM / DD / YYYY 03 / 22 / 2024	
Mailing Address 70 Morningside Drive PAD 2173		FEC Identification Number C H4NY16079	
City Manhattan	State NY	Zip Code 10027	Amount of Each Disbursement this Period 1000.00
Purpose of Disbursement Cash expenses for canvassers		Category/ Type	
Candidate Name Dolan, Martin, , ,		Transaction ID : SB17.4244	
Office Sought:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate <input type="checkbox"/> President	Disbursement For: 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼	<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item
State: NY	District: 14		

- iv. The Report discloses multiple disbursements as “cash expenses for canvassers” – \$1,000 to Parker DeDeker and \$500 to the candidate. While a campaign may maintain a petty cash fund, expenditures to any one person per purchase is limited to \$100 and requires maintaining a detailed log of disbursements.¹¹

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) B. Dolan, Martin, , ,		Date of Disbursement MM / DD / YYYY 03 / 11 / 2024	
Mailing Address 25 Bradley Street		FEC Identification Number C H4NY16079	
City Dobbs Ferry	State NY	Zip Code 10522	Amount of Each Disbursement this Period 500.00
Purpose of Disbursement Cash expenses for canvassing		Category/ Type	
Candidate Name Dolan, Martin, , ,		Transaction ID : SB17.4245	
Office Sought:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate <input type="checkbox"/> President	Disbursement For: 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼	<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item
State: NY	District: 14		

¹⁰ April Quarterly Report, page 17 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

¹¹ 11 C.F.R. § 102.11; April Quarterly Report, page 17-18 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

- v. The campaign paid FedEx \$118.47 on March 26th, but failed to include a purpose.¹²

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)			Date of Disbursement	
A. Federal Express			<div> <div>M</div> <div>M</div> <div>/</div> <div>D</div> <div>D</div> <div>/</div> <div>Y</div> <div>Y</div> <div>Y</div> <div>Y</div> </div> <div>03</div> <div>26</div> <div>2024</div>	
Mailing Address 55 Westchester Square				
City Bronx	State NY	Zip Code 10461	FEC Identification Number	
Purpose of Disbursement		001	C	
Candidate Name		Category/ Type	Amount of Each Disbursement this Period	
Office Sought:	<input type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate <input type="checkbox"/> President	Disbursement For: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼	118.47	
State:	District:		Transaction ID : SB17.4247	
Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)			<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item	

- vi. The campaign paid Meridian Campaign Advisors \$10,000 on March 12th, but failed to include a purpose.¹³

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)			Date of Disbursement	
A. Meridian Campaign Advisors			<div> <div>M</div> <div>M</div> <div>/</div> <div>D</div> <div>D</div> <div>/</div> <div>Y</div> <div>Y</div> <div>Y</div> <div>Y</div> </div> <div>03</div> <div>12</div> <div>2024</div>	
Mailing Address 389 Wilson Boulevard				
City Mineola	State NY	Zip Code 11501	FEC Identification Number	
Purpose of Disbursement		005	C H4NY16079	
Candidate Name Dolan, Martin, . .		Category/ Type	Amount of Each Disbursement this Period	
Office Sought:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate <input type="checkbox"/> President	Disbursement For: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼	10000.00	
State: NY	District: 14		Transaction ID : SB17.4220	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item	

¹² April Quarterly Report, page 19 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

¹³ April Quarterly Report, page 20 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

- vii. The campaign paid Meridian Campaign Advisors \$15,000 on March 19th for “retainer” which does not provide adequate detail for the general public to understand the services provided.¹⁴

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)			Date of Disbursement	
B. Meridian Campaign Advisors			<div> <div>MM</div> <div>DD</div> <div>YY</div> </div> <div> <div>03</div> <div>19</div> <div>2024</div> </div>	
Mailing Address 389 Wilson Boulevard				
City	State	Zip Code		
Mineola	NY	11501		
Purpose of Disbursement		Category/ Type	FEC Identification Number	
Retainer			<div> <div>C</div> <div>H4NY16079</div> </div>	
Candidate Name		Disbursement For: 2024	Amount of Each Disbursement this Period	
Dolan, Martin, , ,			<div> <div>15000.00</div> </div>	
Office Sought:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate <input type="checkbox"/> President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼	Transaction ID : SB17.4218	
State: NY	District: 14		<input type="checkbox"/> Memo Item	

d. Expenditures, Schedule B, Line 17:

- i. The Report lists repayment of Dolan’s loan on Line 20a instead of 19a, which makes it look like the campaign refunded \$35,000 to Marty Dolan (more than it had raised).¹⁵
- ii. In addition, the above loan repayments are not listed on Schedule C.

VIOLATIONS OF THE ACT

5. Failure to provide Employer and Occupation for donors.

Respondents have knowingly and willingly violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(3)(A) for at least 24 contributions, which requires the “identification” of each “person (other than a political committee) who makes a contribution to the reporting committee during the reporting period, whose contribution or contributions have an aggregate amount or value in excess of \$200 within the calendar year (or election cycle, in the case of an authorized committee of a candidate for Federal office), or in any lesser amount if the reporting

¹⁴ *Id.*; see Fed. Elect. Comm’n, *Purposes of disbursement* (Aug. 21, 2018) at <https://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/purposes-disbursements/> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

¹⁵ April Quarterly Report, page 24 (filed April 15, 2024) at <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/518/202404159633309518/202404159633309518.pdf> (last accessed April 17, 2024).

committee should so elect, together with the date and amount of any such contribution.”¹⁶

6. Failure to provide purposes for expenditures.

Respondents have knowingly and willfully violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(5)(A) for at least seven expenditures, which requires a committee to identify each “person to whom an expenditure in an aggregate amount or value in excess of \$200 within the calendar year is made by the reporting committee to meet a candidate or committee operating expense, together with the date, amount, and purpose of such operating expenditure.”¹⁷

7. Failure to properly report loan repayments.

Respondents have knowingly and willfully violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(5)(D) by failing to properly report loan repayments to the candidate, which requires a disclosure of each “person who receives a loan repayment from the reporting committee during the reporting period, together with the date and amount of such loan repayment.”¹⁸

8. Petty Cash Fund

There is reason to believe that Respondents failed to properly maintain a petty cash fund according to 11 C.F.R. § 102.11.

Justice Democrats PAC requests that the FEC review this matter and find reason to believe that MartyDolanForCongress and Marty Dolan (as candidate and Treasurer) violated the Act by failing to properly report contributions and expenditures – for failing to properly disclose to the public who was contributing to the campaign and how the campaign spent its money.

Whether out of ignorance or avoidance, MartyDolanForCongress has filed a severely deficient report that flaunts the Act’s crucial disclosure requirements. Unfortunately for Respondents, this is a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act. The FEC should penalize them accordingly.

¹⁶ 52 U.S.C. §§ 30104(b)(3)(A); 30101(13)(A) (“identification” as “in the case of any individual, the name, the mailing address, and the occupation of such individual, as well as the name of his or her employer”); see also 11 C.F.R. 104.3(a)(4); 104.7(b).

¹⁷ 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(5)(A); see also 11 C.F.R. 104.3(b)(4)(i); 104.9(a).

¹⁸ 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(5)(D); see also 11 C.F.R. 104.3(b)(4)(iii).

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Simpson

DocuSigned by:

Goff Simpson

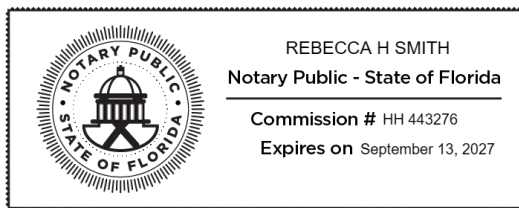
4/23/2024

C965A3643F2A417...

Geoffrey Simpson
Campaigns Director
Justice Democrats PAC
1390 Columbia Ave 260
Lancaster, PA 17603

RHS
State of ~~XXXXXXX~~ Florida

County of Pasco)



Signed and sworn to before me on April 23rd, 2024, by Geoffrey Simpson

Rebecca H Smith

Notary Public Rebecca H Smith

My commission expires: 09/13/2027.

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.Produced driver's license identification.