

February 11, 2019

Galena West
Chief, Enforcement Division
State of California
Fair Political Practices Commission
1102 Q Street, Suite 3000
Sacramento, CA 95811

Re: Complaint No. COM-01192019-00214; Nancy Young

Dear Ms. West:

Thank you for your letter dated January 22, 2019. Please note, my address changed as of September 2018. My new address is [REDACTED], Tracy, CA 95376.

I do appreciate your diligence into looking in this matter as I am personally concerned with such allegations. At the same time, I strive for integrity in all I do as a person as well as an elected official to represent my constituents. I will try to make this as brief as possible, but the detailed misrepresentations deserve careful response.

I'll start with the ridiculous number of pages attached to this complaint, 70. I've taken the time to count only 28 is original material and that stretched to more pages than necessary for the exaggerated effect. This same exaggeration is used during our council meeting by this same David Helm. Please take time to review the numerous council meetings wherein he speaks.

Before I address specifics of the complaint I'll note that your list of witnesses is greatly lacking especially since I only spoke with Amy Ray briefly and that was mostly her simply updating me on the approved and denied applicants on January 10th at 4:30pm. Your list should be topped with Nicole Donovan (the person I spoke with at the number provided 209-831-6707 on my letter if I had questions); Tom Watson (City attorney whom gave me the information I provided to Nicole); Fire Chief David Bramell (whom I spoke with on the phone about this); Jennifer Schnell from TNT (who was involved in this process, email, and conversation); then possibly Troy Brown (Former City Manager who is aware of my actions as a councilmember who has spoken out in past cycles regarding organizations included/excluded from past lotteries).

As a part of Background, there are numerous flaws:

1. Paragraph 3 - Benjamin James Young is my son, not husband. Plus Tracy African American Association (TAAA) application was by Yolande Knight.

2. Paragraph 7 – The main correspondence both verbal and written was between me and Nicole Donovan. These conversations were as an individual regarding organizations to which I was connected. Only one email was purposely written as a councilmember to all relevant involved (Attorney Watson, CM Bradley, Fire Chief Bramell, and Fire Prevention/Nicole) to address numerous other complaints as clearly noted in my email. I've also attached a follow up email between me and Jennifer Schnell (TNT) regarding my efforts. Other phone calls were between us prior to this and post. She thought me a great contact as I had helped in the past years with their concerns.

3. Paragraph 8 – This statement as fact is a lie. On January 10th, when I went to the fire department, my organization One Living on Purpose was already approved as you can see from the couple of copies of the congratulations letter dated January 9th. Amy knew I was stopping by after classes I mentor at Kimball to check on the status of the other organizations as listed by Don from TNT. These were the concerns phoned in to me by Jennifer at TNT and I owed my constituents an answer. Two TNT representatives came to our council meetings on separate occasions to speak on my behalf and how I helped then and in the past the organizations who need their concerns heard. Both Amy and Nicole were in a back room when I arrived. They both came out and simply gave me an update on who was included and who wasn't. They offered whys, which wasn't requested, but helpful. I listened and then sincerely thanked them for all their efforts no matter who was left denied. I wished them a good evening and that was all.

The second comment and feelings by Amy is her prerogative, but incorrect as me being an elected council member will always give me the charge to fight on my community's behalf. Additionally, perhaps if you speak with Nicole, she can express her concerns. I assured her from our first conversation and post 4th of July call that I respect her job and she should always be free to push back if needed. I never threatened her and even when she asked in the first conversation if I wanted to speak to Watson or Bramell. I declined stating that if she was the person to handle my requests, I should be speaking with her. Only because she told me new guidelines were set by our new attorney did I reach out to him. My concern that he didn't even review the application and was changing things mid-stream. It was a council issue that we dealt with as a council per my insistence. That's however, irrelevant to these accusations.

4. Paragraph 10 (& 13) – I did not authorize email. When I became aware, I contacted group to retract. Immediately they did, so it's interesting the corrected email noting the mistake was not included in this stack of "proof". The booths were all non-profits ran by the chosen organizations enlisting help from various volunteers who are a part of various organizations/groups who advertised to their memberships to support whomever they suggest. One Living on Purpose ran my booth and that's why the City of Tracy had no issues with my booth, as no statutes were violated. Mr. Helm continues to overstep and mislead.

5. Paragraph 11- No form 700 is attached, but fyi, I have attached the most recent page for His Image Ministries as of this complaint of my Form 700 (filed 8/2018) noting, "His Image Ministries - Jan 2018 W/drew all Investment".

6. Paragraph 14 – "Seriously erodes the public confidence" – manufactured lies – not true when the public applauds the non-profits and continues to speak on my and other's behalf regarding this very issue.

Secondly, although the fire negotiation are irrelevant for my service as a council member, we entered negotiations around June 2018, so no, when this discourse took place, it was January 2018.

If you have further questions of me, please feel free to ask via cell 510-459-5505 or email: nancyyoung4tracy@yahoo.com. Below is a 5- fact summary:

Fact 1 of 5: The fact is as city council member I promised to be a voice for our community, and that includes my fight for lottery discrepancies the past 3-4 years despite no organizations I'm connected to being affected. You can check the record.

Fact 2 of 5: When I originally contacted Nicole at the fire dept on Jan 8th, regarding an application I did not submit, questioning the time frame given for correction (notice Fri.,1/5 to correct by Monday, 1/8); recognizing who I was, she offered for me to speak with the city attorney or Fire Chief Bramble, I declined insisting I wanted to speak to her as an everyday citizen since I was connected to the organization.

Fact 3 of 5: On Jan 10th, the day before the lottery, I received a call from TNT, plus emails complaining of disqualification of many organizations when the same were accepted in years past. The concern regarding ordinance interpretation verses application instruction prompted my clarification with our city attorney. With so many other organizations affected, as councilmember, I officially contacted city attorney, city manager, fire chief Bramell to request reconsideration.

Fact 4 of 5: Our attorney, Mr. Watson made the judgment calls. If I could manipulate the system, the original organization, TAAA or even His Image would have qualified, neither of which did. But the fact is by the time I arrived at the fire station on Jan 10th, my organization One Living on Purpose had already received the approval letter to participate in lottery. It cleared the system the same as Knights of Columbus and was re-qualified. My fight was always for fairness for all organizations that were disqualified based on a different standard than the past and I waited patiently to speak to the Fire Marshall, Amy on each of them. At the conclusion I gratefully thanked both she and Nicole for all their work on qualifying most of them.

Fact 5 of 5: On Jan 12th I received an email from TNT regarding the results of the lottery. I'll read the brief note from Jennifer: "THANK YOU, Nancy, for all of your time and effort with the City Attorney and Fire Department on their consideration of many of the applicants being disqualified!"

Lastly, I want to reiterate that these concerns I fought for during this past cycle already came back to council last year. Because of my concerns, we updated the ordinance and application and there were no complaints this 2019 cycle.

Sincerely,
Nancy D. Young