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January 26, 2018

Via email to:

Denis M. Fitzgibbons
Fitzgibbons Law Offices, P.L.C.
1115 E. Cottonwood Lane, Suite 150
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
denis@fitzgibbonslaw.com

Re: Maricopa Citizens Protecting Taxpayers campaign finance reports

Dear Mr. Fitzgibbons:

Please find attached up to date financial reports for Maricopa Citizens Protecting Tax Payers. We have not yet filed a termination report, but we will be doing so shortly.

I would like to note a couple of things to try to clear up a couple of points up front in the hopes of avoiding unnecessary confusion, preventing a private party (not the City) from distorting the report for a political agenda or engaging in further smears like we have seen this week in local media reports.

The Committee obviously incurred legal fees in pursuing its lawsuit against the City of Maricopa. Legal fees are specifically exempted from the definition of expenditures, and legal fees paid on behalf of a committee are also specifically exempted from the definition of contributions. See Arizona Revised Statutes §§ 16-911(B)(6)(c); 16-921(B)(7). As such, those are not properly included on the report and have not been included.

In addition, it turned out there was no campaign because this matter did not end up on the ballot, so the only reportable expenses were for the signature collection efforts and the mailbox, and are listed on the campaign report. In short, all required information is listed.

At this point, having filed “complete, accurate and truthful” reports, as you requested in your letter, I consider this matter closed. Until the termination statement is filed, the Committee will file any required reports in a timely manner. I do have to point out that submission of these filings does not constitute an admission that these filings are required, but is being done to resolve the dispute between the Committee and the City of Maricopa before prior to the incursion of unnecessary expenses, as well as in the spirit of transparency.

Mr. Fitzgibbons
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I have appreciated your professionalism throughout this process, and do consider this the best resolution for both my client and the City of Maricopa.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY A. LA SOTA, PLC


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