



Steering Committee

Dale Butler
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10-10-02

Jeff S. Jordan
Supervising Attorney, Central Enforcement Docket
Federal Election Commission
999 E. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

Regarding: MUR 5304

Dear Mr. Jordan:

The Latino Political Action Committee (LPAC) of the Central Valley is in receipt of your correspondence dated Oct. 2, 2002 regarding contributions received by the LPAC from Cardoza for Assembly and contributions made by the LPAC to Cardoza for Congress.

The following is a chronology of the contributions made and received as indicated in the letter of complaint.

11-29-01* - \$105.00 contribution made by the LPAC to Cardoza for Congress in the form of check # 1024 for 3 \$35 tickets to a campaign kick-off event for Cardoza held at the Merced County Fair Grounds. ***(Please note, the complaint indicates a contribution date of 1/31/02 but our records indicate the check date as 11/29/01)**

1-31-02* - \$1,000 contribution made by the LPAC to Cardoza for Congress in the form of check #1026 for one table sponsorship (10 tickets) for a fundraising event held at the Old Fishermans Club in Stanislaus County. ***(please note, the complaint indicates a contribution of \$895 but our records indicate a contribution of \$1,000)**

6-7-02 - \$5,000 contribution received from Friends of Cardoza in the form of check #1173

6-21-02 - \$500 contribution made by the LPAC to Cardoza for Congress in the form of check # 1035 for 5 \$100 tickets to an event featuring the U.S. Congressional Hispanic Caucus held at the home of a local businessman in Stockton, California.

It is abundantly clear that all contributions made by the LPAC to Cardoza were for a specific function or event. All contributions were for tickets for an event and not just lump sum contributions for no event or function. In addition, please note the LPAC had already given Cardoza two contributions before his contribution to the LPAC of \$5,000.

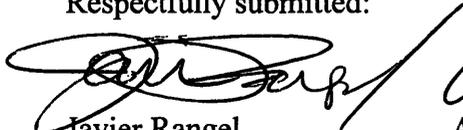
Overall, the LPAC contributed \$1,605 to Cardoza. Friends of Cardoza contributed \$5,000 to the LPAC. It is clear there is no correlation whatsoever in the two sums. Further, there have never been any communication with the Cardoza campaign regarding contributions either to or from either entity. The allegation that there was some kind of money laundering scheme or financial exchange game going on is absolutely preposterous and libelous.

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The LPAC is a non-partisan political action committee whose only purpose is to encourage the latino population to be engaged in the political process and to support candidates for elected office who we feel will best represent the interests of the Latino Community.

We truly feel this complaint is nothing more than a politically motivated maneuver by a candidate in a highly contested congressional race. We would be more than happy to discuss this in further detail should you wish to do so.

Respectfully submitted:



Javier Rangel
Treasurer,



Armando Flores
Chairperson



Balvino Irizarry
Operations Manager