



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

I cannot use City resources to endorse or oppose a candidate, but I'm allowed to use them to comment on process.

Just two days after the Court rejected an effort to shine a light on its sources, the ugly impacts of 'dark money' in campaigns have emerged in city politics. As is so often the case in independent campaigns, the messaging reflects a lunatic fringe of the political spectrum.

Three years ago, I publicly defended my friend Supervisor Ray Carroll when his character was attacked with inaccurate and gutter allegations. Similarly, I publicly denounce the recent robo-call attacks levied by an independent campaign against my friend and colleague Paul Cunningham. The content was offensive and potentially defamatory.

We can disagree on policy, and we can engage in heated debates when doing so. But crossing the line into character assassination – and what many would call defamation – has no place in the politics of this community.

Public servants have friends, family, and professional colleagues with whom we interact daily. It is inappropriate and clearly unethical to put statements out into the public realm that are untrue and personally offensive. Our community deserves a robust political debate. Those behind the independent campaign that has made these dark money attacks on my friend Paul need to up their game if they want to engage in our local political discussions.

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