

**Registering a response**

Dear ER:

I would like to take this opportunity to clear the air in regards to the accusa-

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**Letters**

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tion that Aloha Sharkeez has been making in-kind contributions to Sam Edgerton's campaign.

As of October 14, we have formed a General Purpose City Political Action Committee under the name of the Hermosa Beach Downtown Restaurant and Tavern Association, which represents the interests of many businesses in the downtown Hermosa Beach area, not just Aloha Sharkeez. By definition, a General Purpose Committee is one whose "principal activity is supporting or opposing a variety of candidates or measures not voted upon in a single election." This is exactly why our Committee was formed. All expenditures prior to Oct. 14 have been independent expenditures of Sam Edgerton, Pete Tucker or any other candidate. Furthermore, these expenditures have been less than \$1,000.00. As dictated by the State, we will disclose these expenditures in our first financial statement. Also, the Committee has set up an independent bank account with \$1,000.00 and a Tax I.D. number.

The accusation that Aloha Sharkeez has been employing five to seven people a week for 15 hours a week to specifically distribute Mr. Edgerton's literature is not true. We have taken it upon ourselves to register the young voters of Hermosa Beach, specifically, those residents between the ages of 21- 35. As we all know, the average Hermosa Beach resident is NOT represented by the people who vote in our local elections. The average age of Hermosa Beach's resi-

dents is 37 years old. If you were to determine the average age of those who vote in city elections, surely it would be older than the average age of the city residents. We feel that the youthful vote in Hermosa Beach has not been well-represented in past elections. Therefore, we have been registering young voters and offering them the chance to sign up for an absentee ballot in hopes of making the voting process easier for them. We feel that if we can make voting hassle-free for those who have traditionally not voted in the past, then the results of the upcoming election will be a "truer" representation of the Hermosa Beach population.

Sam Edgerton and Pete Tucker have given us some of their campaign material, including flyers. We have streamlined this information and created handouts, which touch upon the issues that concern the young voters of Hermosa Beach. When we go around offering to sign people up to vote, we offer them these handouts to educate them on the issues related to the upcoming City Council election.

In closing, we will continue to register people to vote by absentee ballot and suggest who they should support. It is our legal right to pay people who are assisting us register voters. By no means should any of our actions be deemed "in-kind contributions" to Sam Edgerton's campaign.

Leigh Lupinacci  
Aloha Sharkeez  
Manager, Food & Beverage  
Hermosa Beach

L.A.S.C. - TORRANCE COURT  
825 MAPLE AVENUE  
TORRANCE CA 90503

DATE PAID: 04/19/07 03:46:20 PM  
RECEIPT #: 88A031963028

CIT/CASE: Y0048116 LEA/DEF#:

PAYMENT: \$1.50 0310  
RECEIVED:

CHECK:  
CASH: 5.50  
CHANGE: 4.00