

September 14, 2016

My name is Jim DiCamillo. I am the President of WLC Architects, Inc. (8163 Rochester Avenue, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730).

By way of background, I am currently in my 34th year with WLC and I've been the Company President for almost a decade now.

It has been brought to my attention that this Citizen's Oversight Committee has recently issued an Audit Report that includes a veiled accusation of 'pay to play' impropriety on the part of my Company. I want to assure you that any such accusations, whether veiled or direct, are completely without merit.

WLC is a recognized leader in the K12 design market. We provide <u>professional</u> services for literally dozen's and dozens of school districts throughout the State of California. We've done so for almost 40 years.

Given our state-wide footprint, WLC is routinely asked to contribute to causes related to public education. Virtually all of those requests come from the staff, Boards, school sites, and committees connected with the Districts for which we are already providing professional services. Those requests have <u>always</u> come from the District to WLC . . . not from WLC to the District.

This is <u>not</u> unusual. WLC receives these types of solicitations on a weekly (almost daily) basis. WLC is proud to support public education. We believe in public education. My wife is a public educator. My family sponsors a scholarship at our neighborhood public high school. We do so (I do so) because we believe in local public schools. It is who we are. It is what we believe in. And we make no apologies for that support.

However, to make the reverse assumption that WLC's support is intended to give us undue influence in architect selections or fee negotiations is a classic case of 'chicken and egg'. WLC does not now, nor have we ever, supported a cause, committee, or measure for <u>ANY</u> reason other than that we believe in the good work it will do in the community.

We virtually never give financial support to a District for which we are not already providing professional services. In fact, we go to great lengths not to cross that line, and some would say that policy is at our own market-share peril.

In closing, if this Committee does not want WLC's financial support then I suggest you recommend that the community stop asking us for it. I know we'll be disappointed to be less of a participant, but we don't want that support to damage our 40-year-long spotless reputation.

Finally, I would hope that as this Committee accepts this 'Audit Report' into the public record, you would ask its authors whether they spoke to the President of WLC Architects. They did not.

West Contra Costa County Citizen's Oversight Committee September 14, 2016 Page 2

Thank you for listening, and on behalf of WLC, we are both humbled and proud to continue to provide integrity-based professional services to the West Contra Costa County community.

Sincerely,

JAMES P. DICAMILLO Architect, AIA

VEEDTM AP

President, Principal

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