

Respondent Names
FairVote Washington (https://fairvotewa.org/)
Complainant Name
Bill Bangs
Complaint Description
<p>Bill Bangs reported via the portal 4 days ago (Thu, 17 Nov 2022 at 10:04 AM)</p> <p>The respondent maintains a website (https://fairvotewa.org/) that supports three campaigns in Washington for the 2022 General Election. The campaigns are (1) Ranked Choice Voting for Seattle, (2) Ranked Choice Voting for Clark County, and (3) Ranked Choice Voting for San Juan County. The website contains webpages for each of these campaigns that lists the alleged Top Five Contributors to each campaign. In addition, the respondent is the contact identified on an advertising flyer (photo-copy attached as evidence) mailed to the registered voters of San Juan County and which lists the alleged Top Five Contributors to the Ranked Choice Voting for San Juan County campaign.</p> <p>Each of the four lists of Top Five Contributors to the campaigns is incorrect and misleading. In particular, the top contributor is either mis-identified or omitted from every list. In all four cases, the top contributor is a foreign (non-Washington State) entity not identified in the list. Each of the campaigns is in support of a local ballot measure and the voters have been deprived of knowing that the true source of funding is from an out-of-state, national lobbying firm.</p> <p>The respondent has provided false and misleading advertising for the 2022 General Election in three different jurisdictions (City of Seattle, Clark County, and San Juan County) and is in violation of RCW 42.17A.320 and RCW 42.17A.350 that political advertising must provide information on the top five contributors.</p>
What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?
The public (voters) have been misled by a pattern of errors in the campaign advertising for three local ballot measures in the City of Seattle, San Juan County, and Clark County. The voters have been led to believe that the major sponsor(s) of the three campaigns are from Washington State when, in fact, they are one or two foreign (out-of-state) national lobbying firms.
List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found
The attached PDF file contains clips from the FairVote Washington website where each of the three lists of Top Five Contributors is shown (highlight in red) along with the correct list of top contributors found on the PDC website pages for each of the campaigns. Also included is a copy of the flyer mailed to the registered voters of San Juan County (received on or about November 5, 2022) with an incorrect list of Top Five Contributors along with a reference to the correct list on the PDC website.

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them
All voters with access to the FaifVote Washington website and all registered voters of San Juan County.
Certification (Complainant)
I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

<https://fairvotewa.org/>

“Paid for by FairVote Washington”



Clicking on “Learn More” leads to a webpage with an incorrect Top Five Contributor list
See the following three charts for each of the three campaigns.

Mis-statement of Top 5 Contributors to “rcvforclarkcountycampaign”
As found on FAIRVOTE-WASHINGTON website:
<https://fairvotewa.org/campaigns/clark-county-campaign/>



The reported contributions to this campaign are found on the PDC website:

<https://www.pdc.wa.gov/political-disclosure-reporting-data/browse-search-data/committees/co-2022-30394/contributions>

Note that Robert Poore was only the third top contributor (with a total of \$30,700).

The top two contributors (at \$50,000 each) were

ACTION NOW INC (Houston, TX) and FAIRVOTE ACTION FUND (Takoma Park, MD).

FairVote Washington provided two in-kind donations valued at \$15,466 and was only the fourth top contributor.

Rebecca Liebman and Shel Kaphan were not in the top five.

The Top Two Contributors (from Texas and Maryland) were not listed in the top five.

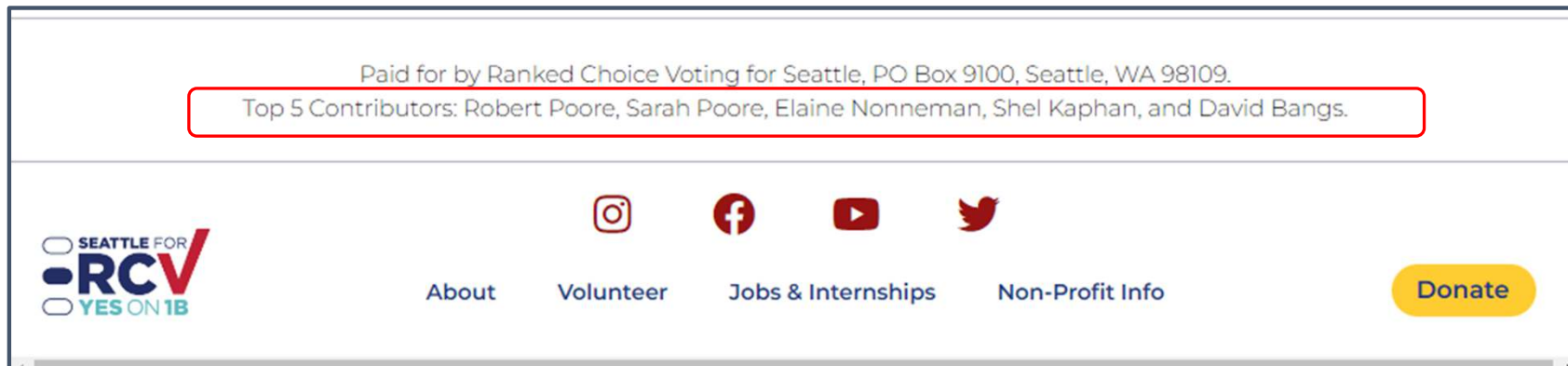
Mis-statement of Top 5 Contributors to “rcvforsanjuancountycampaign”
As found on FAIRVOTE-WASHINGTON website:
<https://fairvotewa.org/campaigns/san-juan-county/>



The reported contributions to this campaign are found on the PDC website:
<https://www.pdc.wa.gov/political-disclosure-reporting-data/browse-search-data/committees/co-2022-30883/contributions>
The top contributor (at \$10,000) was FAIRVOTE ACTION FUND (Takoma Park, MD).
FairVote Washington provided an in-kind donations valued at \$180 and was not a top five contributor.

**The Top Contributor (from Maryland) was not listed in the top five.
FAIRVOTE WASHINGTON was listed as the top contributor but wasn't even in the top five.**

Mis-statement of Top 5 Contributors to “Ranked Choice Voting for Seattle”
As found on the campaign website:
<https://rcv4seattle.org/>



The reported contributions to this campaign are found on the PDC website:
<https://www.pdc.wa.gov/political-disclosure-reporting-data/browse-search-data/committees/co-2022-31279/contributions>
Note that Robert & Sarah Poore were only the fourth and fifth top contributors (with \$12,500 each).

The top three contributors were

- FAIRVOTE ACTION FUND (Takoma Park, MD) - \$390,000
- FAIRVOTE WASHINGTON (Bothell, WA) - \$80,000
- Frederik Schaffalitzky (Bellevue, WA) - \$25,000

**The Top Three Contributors (including two corporations) were not listed in the Top Five.
None of the Top Three Contributors (totaling over 82% of all contributions) are from Seattle.**

Campaign Flyer sent to registered voters in San Juan County:

RANKED-CHOICE VOTING

The Simple, Proven System

TO IMPROVE OUR ELECTIONS

MY CHOICES		
1st	2nd	3rd
Candidate A.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

With RCV, you get to rank the candidates in your order of preference, or just vote for your favorite. If your first choice has the least support, then your vote counts for your next choice.

More (and better) Choices
Allows you to vote for your favorite candidate while still having a backup, so your vote is never wasted.

Proven and Simple
RCV is already used in more than 50 cities and counties, and the states of Alaska and Maine. Overwhelming majorities of voters find it simple to use.

Limits Divisiveness
Candidates are rewarded for appealing to all voters, tamping down negative, extremist campaigning.

Vote BY NOV 8

APPROVE

Charter Amendment Proposition 3

FairVote WASHINGTON

More info at fairvotewa.org

Paid for by Ranked Choice Voting for San Juan County, P.O. Box 969, Eastsound, WA 98245.
 Top 5 Contributors: FairVote Washington, Jon DeVaan, Shel Kaphan, Rebecca Lieberman, and Janet Brownell.

*****AUTO**SCH 5-DIGIT 98232
 Eastsound WA 98245-9220

PRSRT STD
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 CAPITOL CITY
 PRESS

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