

From: editor@theuplandreport.com

To: BenLopez4Montclair@gmail.com, complaint@fppc.ca.gov, constituents.affairs@sos.ca.gov, sbcsentinel@yahoo.com

Oct 14, 2020, 5:29 PM

Subject: West End Leaders PAC Compliant With Ben Lopez Return Address On PAC Mass Mail Pieces

Dear Mr. Ben Lopez & The California Fair Political Practices Complaint Department & The California Secretary of State Elections Division,

Mr. Lopez, as Editor of [The Upland Report](#) which covers local politics in the City of Upland, as well as, local policy decisions affecting Montclair and Claremont as Upland's direct neighbors, **I am writing to get your comments regarding our investigational report into the local Political Action Committees (PAC's), who are mass-mailing political hit pieces to Upland's residents.**

To my great surprise, a political hit piece targeting Upland City Council Candidate Carlos Garcia, was just mass-mailed to the residents of Upland, using your address as the sender. Your election committee is **Lopez For Council 2020 – FPPC ID # 1371786 – P.O. Box 141, Montclair, Ca. 91763** and you are currently running for the Montclair City Council. The return address for the "PAC" that sent the Garcia hit-piece to the registered voters of Upland is **West End Leaders PAC – P.O. Box 141, Montclair, Ca, 91763, and is below.** I just got off the phone with the California Secretary of State to verify that there is **NO WEST END LEADERS PAC.**

Since the Garcia hit piece was mass-mailed in full color and was double sided, it is an absolute certainty that it exceeded the \$1,000 threshold, for any non-PAC activity. Since you are currently running for the Montclair City Council and have created your own committee for that purpose, you already know this. I am sure I don't need to remind you that state law dictates that citizens be allowed to view who paid for political mass-mailers, by examining a PAC's listed financial contributors on the state's websites. But this is impossible because there are **NO RECORDS FOR WEST END LEADERS PAC!**

It is very clear that the candidate benefiting from the deceptive attack mass-mailers defaming Carlos Garcia with your address on them, is none other than ousted Former Upland Councilman Gino Filippi. Those mass-mailers instruct Upland's residents to "Vote for someone with experience" and as you are aware, out of the four candidates running for the Upland District 3 Seat, only Filippi has prior experience serving on Upland's City Council. Filippi is also the only candidate of the four people running for the Upland District 3 Seat, who has previously endorsed you.

It seems totally unbelievable to me, that you would choose to support Filippi and your address to be used in this fashion on these attack mass mail-pieces, despite his public records in the era of ME TOO & BLACK LIVES MATTERS MOVEMENTS. For the life of me Mr. Lopez, I cannot understand how as a Hispanic man yourself, the mass-mailers with your address on them are defaming the only Hispanic candidate running for the newly created Hispanic Majority-Minority Council District in Upland. Mr. Lopez, I'd like to know why you aren't more focused on your own upcoming city council race in Montclair and instead, have inserted yourself into another city's, council race?

One last question Mr. Lopez, since you are a registered Republican, what did you find so concerning with the "Merry Christmas Post" that Garica did not create but only shared on his social media account, which was just mass-mailed to the registered voters of Upland, using your address? If you would like to explain yourself Mr. Lopez, I will publish your responses along with this letter in the upcoming Upland Report about this issue, but I respectfully ask for your comments by midnight tonight. I will call you after I send you this email, to make sure you have received it and that you know to look for it in your inbox.

The Upland Report.com is read by thousands of residents each week and our highest-ranking articles have received more than 10,000 local readers in just a 5-day period. You can be sure this report reaches countless Montclair residents too. Please note, I have copied the California Secretary of State and the California Fair Political Practices Enforcement Division, to find out why your address is featured on the mass-mailers for a Political Action Committee hit-piece, for a PAC that does not exist. If you have been a victim of mail fraud and did not know this was occurring, please contact the Post Office Inspection Office at once, so that the responsible party can be prosecuted. I thank you for your prompt attention and timely reply, in advance.

Most Sincerely,
[The Upland Report.com](http://TheUplandReport.com)
editor@theuplandreport.com

The screenshot shows the official website of the California Secretary of State, Alex Padilla. The header includes the state seal and the text "CALIFORNIA Secretary of State ALEX PADILLA". A navigation bar contains links for "SECRETARY OF STATE", "ELECTIONS", "CAMPAIGN & LOBBYING", "BUSINESS PROGRAMS", "STATE ARCHIVES", and "REGISTRIES". On the left, there is a "Cal-Access Search" section with a search box, a "GO" button, and a link to "Advanced Search". Below this is a "Cal-Access Home" section with links for "Campaign Finance", "Candidates & Elected Officials", and "Propositions & Ballot Measures". The main content area displays "Search Results For 'West End Leaders PAC'" and states "We found no results for your search."

2018 ENDORSEMENTS

We strongly support Ben Lopez for Montclair City Council and urge you to vote for Ben.



Upland Councilman Gino Filippi

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PAID FOR BY LOPEZ FOR COUNCIL 2020 * FPPC ID#1371786 * P.O. BOX 141, MONTCLAIR, CA 91763

Professional License BENJAMIN LOPEZ PO BOX 141, MONTCLAIR, CA 91763-0141 (SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY) NOTARIES California 2140675 Expiration: 02/19/2020 BENJAMIN LOPEZ PO BOX 141, MONTCLAIR, CA 91763-0141 (SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY) NOTARY

NO CARLOS GARCIA He is WRONG for District 3! Why? The last thing Upland needs is another politician with - NO experience - NO platform - NO plan STOP CORRUPTION! The same developers that backed Ricky Felix want you to vote for Carlos Garcia. NO!!! Don't be fooled! Vote for someone with experience that can actually help. Paid for by West End Leaders PAC PO Box 141 Montclair CA 91763

Reckless, Divisive Folks... Carlos Garcia is not what he says. He is a wolf in sheep's clothing that is backed by special interests. Be smart! An inexperienced, short-term resident is NOT the right person to represent us in District 3. Vote for someone with skills, knowledge and a plan to help! I'm just gonna put this right here. Merry Christmas I Love my Guns Bacon Rocks! The NFL Can kiss my ass! Obama was an Ass! Hillary needs to go to jail! GO TRUMP! You should STAND for the National Anthem! God Bless America! This advertisement was not authorized or paid for by a candidate for this office or a committee controlled by a candidate for this office.

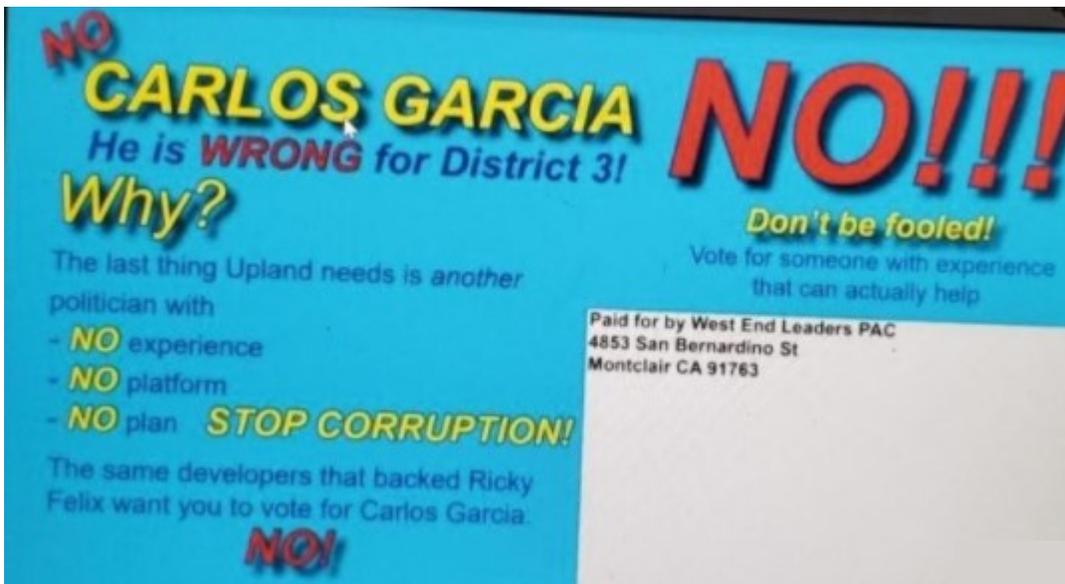
From: editor@theuplandreport.com

To: BenLopez4Montclair@gmail.com

Oct 14, 2020, 11:31 PM

Subject: Looking For Comment Why Your Home Address Is On PAC Mail Pieces Attacking Carlos Garica

Mr. Lopez. I left you a detailed voice mail today and emailed you 6 hours ago. Upland residents are now getting "PAC" mass mail pieces, sent from both your home address being 4853 San Bernardino Rd, as well as, your P.O. Box. Upland residents are calling the SB County Registrar of Voters, as well as, the Fair Political Practices Commission, inquiring about records for the West End Leaders PAC, which is using your mailing addresses to target Upland residents and Upland Political Candidates. This issue and you are being openly discussed on social media, I am reaching out again and giving you until 12 noon tomorrow 10/15 to respond with a comment, before we publish our article and distribute it on social media and to our vast mailing list. Thank you



whitepages SEARCH. FIND. KNOW.

PERSON PHONE REVERSE ADDRESS BUSINESS

4853 San Bernardino St Montclair, CA

4853 San Bernardino St Montclair, CA 91763 Benjamin Isaac Lopez Age 40s Monitor OFF CURRENT ADDRESS 4853 San Bernardino St Montclair CA 91763-2217