

Pacifica Awaits Superior Court Fraud Trial and FPPC Investigation of Missing Campaign Records

The pretrial conference on 30 felony charges against Bradley William Jasperson is scheduled in San Mateo County Superior Court, Judge Stephanie Garratt, on 1/14/19 at 1:30 PM. Jasperson has pleaded not guilty to charges of perjury, signing fictitious names, and identity theft while in the employ of Griffiths Olson consulting firm. Jasperson was hired to gather signatures to defeat Pacifica City Council Ordinance 814, a temporary moratorium on no-fault evictions and high rent increases before a ballot measure for fair rents in the November 2017 election.

Missing campaign records for the petition drive make it difficult to confirm who hired Griffiths Olson and discern how much outside money was spent to defeat the local ordinance. In its 5/18/17 newsletter, the California Apartment Association identified that it contributed resources. The Fair Political Practices Commission is currently investigating suspected violation of the Political Reform Act.

The petition signature drive overturned the local ordinance by a very small margin. The drive accrued only 63 more signatures needed to overrule Ordinance 814 – only 13 more signatures if letters of rescission had been accepted. The petition drive came to a premature close when signatures were submitted early. It is the opinion of Pacifica Housing 4 All (formerly Fair Rents 4 Pacifica) that more letters removing names from the petition were occurring daily and that the drive was trending toward defeat.

Loss of Ordinance 814 had grave consequences for Pacifica: Rents for many tenants increased 50% or greater, resulting in displacements. The community has remained politically divided since. Questions remain: Who was responsible for the defeat of Ordinance 814, and how much outside monies were spent? The community

awaits the decisions by San Mateo County Superior Court and the Fair Political Practices Commission.

PACIFICA HOUSING 4 ALL