

## Stragier, Doris

---

**From:** Carlos, Mark  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2023 12:29 PM  
**To:** Piccolo, Mike  
**Cc:** Stragier, Doris; Wilkerson, Betsy; Zappone, Zack; Gunn, Jeff; neilallenmuller@gmail.com  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Ethics Complaint Response

Hello Attorney Piccolo,

I am in receipt of Mr. Muller's "objections" delivered to you on November 29<sup>th</sup>. I am not so sure whether this is a rebuttal brief, Mr Muller's personal opinion of a City Council staffer that he has never met, or an "objection" to materials, as identified in the Second Amended Prehearing Order. Before the Commission considers the material, I ask that Mr. Muller clearly identify the purpose of his email. For my part, I am treating this as an attempt to introduce new materials into the record, to which I feel compelled to offer the following supplemental evidence.

-Councilwoman Stratton's response to Mr Muller's complaint about Mr MacFarland's relationship with Mr Muller. There is a pattern of behavior where Mr Muller brought forth a complaint in 2019 during Council Member Stratton's re-election just as he submitted this during Council President Wilkerson's campaign. There is a clear correlation between Mr MacFarland and Mr Muller, and the legislative committee that they are a part of.

-A clip from the October 5<sup>th</sup> Council President Debate. This current ethics case (23-03) was referenced during a debate by BOMA Spokane's endorsed candidate in their race. The section starts at 1:02:08 when the candidates were asked to submit a question. The Ethics Commission is being weaponized by BOMA Spokane during local races, wasting taxpayer dollars.

- The AWC Board of Directors page which shows that members of their board come from both sides of the political aisle, unlike the slate of candidates that Mr Muller and Mr McFarland's committee endorsed which the Inlander called "conservative candidates" (Sanford, Nate. "Lisa Brown and her liberal allies win control of Spokane city government" *Inlander*, 30 Nov. 2023)

**YOUR DAY, YOUR VOICE, YOUR VOTE**  
**CAST YOUR BALLOT BY NOV. 7**



**MAYOR**  
**NADINE**  
**WOODWARD**



**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**  
**KIM**  
**PLESE**



**DISTRICT 1**  
**MICHAEL**  
**CATHCART**



**DISTRICT 2**  
**KATEY**  
**TRELOAR**



**DISTRICT 3**  
**EARL**  
**MOORE**



**SCAN QR CODE TO**  
**SEE FULL LIST OF**  
**ENDORSEMENTS**

PAID FOR BY BOMAWA PAC  
AND NOT AUTHORIZED BY  
CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEES  
PO BOX 592 SPOKANE, WA 99210

#### MEANWHILE, A FEW BLOCKS AWAY

Woodward and the other conservative candidates held their election night watch party at Barrister Winey, just a few blocks from the Democrats. Shortly after 8 pm, Woodward and the other candidates departed to a private room to watch results come in.

The wine was flowing freely, but it wasn't enough to stop the mood from turning sour as the first batch of ballots dropped.

"Measure 1 is getting destroyed," someone groaned, referring to the county ballot measure that would have raised the sales tax by 0.2% to fund a new jail and other public safety measures.

Liberals called the proposal a blank check that lacked clarity on how money would be spent. Voters seemed to agree: The measure failed, with only 33% voting in support.

Shortly after ballots dropped, Emily Strode, who once worked as a campaign manager for U.S. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers and did consulting work for a number of conservative candidates this year, took to the stage to calm people's nerves and remind the crowd that there were still tens of thousands of ballots left to count.

Someone in the back of the audience — who seemed like they'd had too much wine — interrupted Strode's speech and started yelling about how "maybe we should go back to in-person voting."

Back at the Democrats' party, the mood was celebratory.

"We have some big challenges ahead of us, but I believe we can take them on together," Brown told the cheering crowd.

- The October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Ethics Commission minutes where Mr MacFarland excused himself at 4:45pm before the commission considered former Council President Beggs' ethics case.

-The BOMA Spokane Board of Directors Page, where Mr MacFarland is listed as the Board President of their organization, not just the Chair of their Legislative Committee and says,

"BOMA Spokane has greatly amplified its sphere of influence. Our group has been instrumental in working to pass legislation in Olympia and bring about meaningful change in our region. I hope that membership takes comfort in knowing that our Board does not take this responsibility lightly. For the first time, we published candidate endorsements and three of those five won their respective elections. The legislative committee has grown and become more involved than ever before."

-One more thing I would like to submit for the record, is this CNN article showing that to dox is to publish personal information with malicious intent, not to gather evidentiary support that is publicly available to support a case.

dox

/däks/

verb

**INFORMAL**

gerund or present participle: **doxxing**

1. search for and publish private or identifying information about (a particular individual) on the internet, typically with malicious intent.

"hackers and online vigilantes routinely dox both public and private figures"

Thank you.

Sincerely,



**Mark Carlos**

Assistant to Council President Betsy Wilkerson  
O 509.625.6268 | M 509.655.1507  
808 W Spokane Falls Blvd Spokane WA 99201

Stay updated! Follow Betsy on Facebook

*This email is subject to the Washington State Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, and may therefore be subject to disclosure as a public record.*

**From:** Piccolo, Mike <mpiccolo@spokanecity.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2023 8:21 AM

**To:** Wilkerson, Betsy <bwillkerson@spokanecity.org>; Zappone, Zack <zzappone@spokanecity.org>; Carlos, Mark <mcarlos@spokanecity.org>; Gunn, Jeff <jgunn@spokanecity.org>; neilallenmuller@gmail.com

**Cc:** Stragier, Doris <dstragier@spokanecity.org>

**Subject:** FW: FW: Ethics Complaint Response

Please find attached the response from Mr. Muller regarding the allegations of a conflict of interest pertaining to Commissioner McFarland.

Mike Piccolo

Michael J. Piccolo  
Assistant City Attorney

---

**From:** Neil Muller <[neilallenmuller@gmail.com](mailto:neilallenmuller@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2023 5:05 PM  
**To:** Piccolo, Mike <[mpiccolo@spokanecity.org](mailto:mpiccolo@spokanecity.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Ethics Complaint Response

[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]

Mike,

Attached is my response to the 3 objections that various respondents put forward on Mr McFarland's potential conflict of interest.

Regards,  
neil