

Complaint

The candidate, Bill Sanderson, has no regard for the campaign laws of Tennessee. Tennessee passed campaign finance and ethics reform legislation to prevent fraudulent filings of campaign finances.

This three-year campaign veteran is demonstrating blatant disregard for our finance and ethics compliance rules. Ignorance of the law is not an acceptable defense in this case. Intentionally fraudulent finance returns hurt all of us in the political process. Sanderson is the poster child for campaign finance violations.

The *Nashville City Paper* wrote an article on Sanderson's lack of regard for finance and ethics laws on March 21, 2010. The article is enclosed.

Below are examples of Bill Sanderson's campaign finance violations.

1—Web site

The campaign has operated a website on two domains, www.votebill.net and www.electbill.net, for two years, with the disclaimer, "Paid for by Bill Sanderson Election Fund, Danny Jowers, Treasurer," with no mention on the financial disclosure.

2—Campaign Office

Sanderson has operated his campaign out of his personal business, "C.W. Sanderson's Hardware, Furniture & Appliance Business," without disclosing the in-kind use of the facilities, office supplies, and office utilities. Additionally, employees of C.W. Sanderson's have conducted campaign activities while on duty at their job, participating in phone banks or clerical work for the campaign. Beyond this, Bill Sanderson has included advertising for his business in campaign mailings.

3—Campaign Mailings

Sanderson has sent out several thousand fundraising solicitations by mail to voters, business owners, legislators, and PACs. Enclosed are examples of the mailers and the dates they were sent. Note the enclosure of advertisements for C.W. Sanderson's in several of the envelopes. Listed below are the dates of the mailings.

- January 2010: Fundraising mailer
- January 29, 2010: Fundraising mailer (to legislators)
- February 1, 2010: Fundraising mailer
- March 24, 2010: Fundraising mailer
- April 2, 2010: Fundraising mailer

- July 10, 2010: Fundraising event invitation, home of Perry Smith

4—Newspaper advertisements

Sanderson has advertised several times in local newspapers with campaign material, without indicating any sources of payment, whether from the campaign account or privately sponsored. Listed below are the enclosed advertisements:

- *Lake County Banner*, June 16, 2010
- *Lake County Banner*, July 28, 2010
- *Lake County Banner*, August 11, 2010
- *Union City Daily Messenger*, September 29, 2010

5—Financial disclosures

Sanderson's financial disclosures from the First Quarter, Second Quarter, and Pre-Primary reporting periods indicate no expenditures or in-kind contributions whatsoever.

While not spending any money or receiving any in-kind contributions, Bill Sanderson has somehow managed to operate a campaign website, run a campaign office, send out multiple mailings, and advertise in local newspapers. This demonstrates clearly that Bill Sanderson has carelessly neglected to obey Tennessee's campaign finance laws.