

Stragier, Doris

From: Carlos, Mark
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 9:45 PM
To: Piccolo, Mike
Cc: Wilkerson, Betsy; Zappone, Zack; Gunn, Jeff; Neil Muller; Stragier, Doris; Schoedel, Elizabeth
Subject: Re: Rescheduled Ethics Commission Hearing

Commissioners,

I hereby submit my official objection to Clayton McFarland, the current co-chair of the Ethics Commission, from participating in my ethics hearing. Mr McFarland is currently serving as the President of BOMA Spokane, which was a position that Neil Muller used to serve. While McFarland is entitled to lobby for more effective policies for real estate and builders on his own time, they have endorsed Councilwoman Wilkerson's opponent in the Council President race and this ethics hearing has been used against her in debates by her opponent and in posts calling her out and naming me as her staffer: <https://www.bomaspokane.org/2023-candidate-endorsements>

Mr McFarland is also the Chair of BOMA Spokane's Legislative Committee of which Mr Muller is a member. They are seen in photos in Olympia lobbying State Representatives on behalf of their organization.: <https://www.bomaspokane.org/legislative-committee>

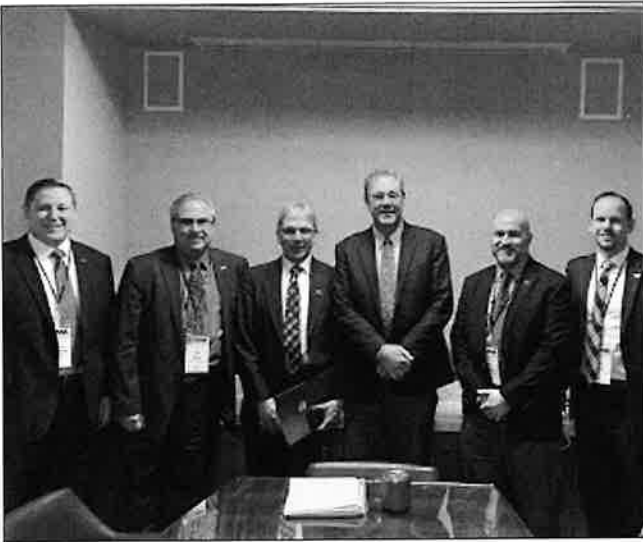
I'm very concerned that Mr McFarland is the President of this political lobbying group. It seems to be a pattern of behavior that BOMA Spokane targets left leaning Council Members during their elections as seen in your proceedings against Councilwoman Stratton during her re-election effort in 2019. These proceedings were brought forth by Mr Muller and featured in news coverage at the time. While this may seem like a coincidence and that Mr Muller is just a concerned citizen, Muller and McFarland are both part of a political committee that seems to lean right and has endorsed my boss' political opponent in the current election.

Given his connection to Muller through BOMA Spokane, and the lobbying committee that they both sit on, I ask that he do the honorable thing and recuse himself like he did when former Council President Beggs was brought before your committee.

Sincerely,

Mark Carlos
Assistant to Councilwoman Betsy Wilkerson





Muller and McFarland at a company event in 2021:



<https://www.bomaspokane.org/past-boma-spokane-members>

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/bcc/commissions/ethics-commission/complaints/2019-09-13-ethics-complaint-by-muller-re-stratton/2019-10-02-stratton-response-to-complaint-by-muller.pdf>

Sent from Mark's City iPhone
<Subject to Public Record>