

MICHAEL A. KELLY*
JOHN O. MANCINI*+

THOMAS P. CARTER *
JOSEPH P. PEMANTELL, JR.
JOELLE C. SYLVIA *
NICHOLAS J. GOODIER*
JACKSON C. PARMENTER*

* also admitted in Massachusetts
+ also admitted in Connecticut

October 21, 2014

Richard H. Pierce, Chairman
Rhode Island Board of Elections
50 Branch Ave.
Providence, R.I. 02904

Re: Complaint Against Candidate Jorge Elorza, Myrth York and Priorities PVD

Dear Chairman Pierce:

We assert that Myrth York and Priorities PVD, have violated the Rhode Island Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act (hereinafter the "Act"), as they have formed a Political Action Committee (hereinafter "PAC"), or some type of organization without filing a Notice of Formation with the Rhode Island Board of Elections, (hereinafter the "Board"), and/or registering as a PAC with the Secretary of State and have failed to file any campaign finance reports. Moreover, Myrth York and Priorities PVD have acted in conjunction with Candidate Jorge Elorza's Campaign in violation of the Act. We demand that the Board exercise its powers and order that Myrth York and Priorities PVD cease and desist from their actions. The Board's failure to act in response to these blatant violations will prompt us to seek a preliminary injunction and temporary restraining order from the Rhode Island Superior Court in Providence County. We assert that the facts and the law in this instance, as follows, are undisputed.

Violation of RI Gen Law § 17-25-15

Priorities PVD is a group of people organized with the intent to advocate against Providence Mayoral Candidate Vincent Cianci (hereinafter "Cianci"), and to advocate for the election of Candidate Jorge Elorza (hereinafter, "Elorza"), and which have made expenditures and/or collected donations to support their campaign. As defined by the Act, a PAC is "any group of two (2) or more persons that accepts any contributions to be used for advocating the election or defeat of any candidate or candidates." See RI Gen Laws § 17-25-3(10). A contribution and expenditure is defined as including "all transfers of money, credit or debit card transactions on-line or electronic payment systems such as "pay pal," paid personal services, or other thing of value to or by any candidate, committee of a political party, or political action committee or ballot question advocate." See RI Gen Laws § 17-25-3(3). Pursuant to the Act, "[n]o political action committee shall accept any contributions or make any expenditures prior to filing notice of its organization with the board of elections." See RI Gen Law § 17-25-15.

Priorities PVD is a group that campaigns against Cianci. As a group of more than two people, they qualify as a PAC, pursuant to the Act. Myrth York and Priorities PVD have accepted contributions and made expenditures for the development and production of a videos

campaigning against Cianci and has purchased twelve (12) television time slots totaling an amount of twenty five thousand three hundred and fifty two dollars (\$25,352). See attached, a copy of Client Spot Listing from Cox Media. One of these videos has already been posted on YouTube and Myrth York identifies herself as a person supporting the add as the treasurer of Priorities PVD. See attached, screen shot of Priorities PVD YouTube Video. Despite these expenditures, Priorities PVD has never filed a Notice of Organization with the Board, pursuant to the Act and is therefore in clear violation of Rhode Island law.

Moreover, § 17-25-10.1(j) of the Rhode Island General Laws states that, “no entity other than an individual, *a political action committee which is duly registered and qualified pursuant to the terms of this chapter*, political party committee authorized by this title, or an authorized committee of an elected official or candidate established pursuant to this chapter shall make any contribution to or any expenditure on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate, political action committee, or political party.” See RI Gen Laws § 17-25-10.1(j). Priorities PVD has failed to register or organized itself with the Rhode Island Secretary of State or the Board and is not a legal entity. Accordingly, all contributions and expenditures made by Priorities PVD are illegal and the Board must order a Cease and Desist on all television advertisement.

Violation of RI Gen Laws §§ 17-25-7 and 17-25-11

Priorities PVD, has failed to file a Campaign Contribution and Expenditures Report as required by the Act. Pursuant to the Act, each treasurer of a PAC must file a report with the Board detailing all contributions in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100). See RI Gen Law § 17-25-7. Additionally, Priorities PVD is required to file a report disclosing all expenditure once they have totaled an aggregate of one thousand (\$1000) dollars. See RI Gen Law § 17-25-11. As previously stated, a contribution and an expenditure includes “all transfers of money, credit or debit card transactions on-line or electronic payment systems such as "pay pal," paid personal services, or other thing of value to or by any candidate, committee of a political party, or political action committee or ballot question advocate. See RI Gen Law 17-25-3(3).

Priorities PVD has failed to file any reports of any contributions and/or expenditures. Clearly the production and development of multiple videos and the purchase of television air time is an expenditure, of which was paid for through contributions. Myrth York, as the self-identified treasurer, has failed to file any campaign finance reports. Accordingly, Priorities PVD and Myrth York are in violation of the Act and the Board must issue a cease and desist all expenditures and to order Priorities PVD to stay all television advertisements.

Violation of the Act by working in Coordination with Elorza

Priorities PVD, Myrth York and Elorza have worked in coordination with each other to campaign against Cianci in an effort to elect Elorza and have thereby violated the Act. Pursuant to RI Gen Law § 17-25-23, any funds expended by a person, committee of a political party, or political action committee to directly influence the outcome of the electoral contest involving the candidate shall be considered a contribution received by or an expenditure made by the candidate for general office, if one or more of the following relationships between the candidate and the person, committee of a political party, or political action committee is present:

(1) There is any arrangement, coordination, or direction with respect to the expenditure between the candidate or the candidate's agent and the person making the expenditure

(3) The person making the expenditure, including any officer, director, employee, or agent of the person, has communicated with, advised, or counseled the candidate or the candidate's agents at any time on the candidate's plans, projects, or needs relating to the candidate's pursuit of election to general office in the same election cycle, including any advice relating to the candidate's decision to seek election to general office

(5) The person making the expenditure, including any officer, director, employer, or agent of the person, has communicated or consulted at any time during the same election cycle about the candidate's plans, projects, or needs relating to the candidate's pursuit of election to general office, with:

(i) Any officer, director, employee, or agent of a party committee that has made or intends to make expenditures or contributions, in connection with the candidate's campaign; or

(ii) Any person whose professional services have been retained by a political party committee that has made or intends to make expenditures or contributions

(6) The expenditure is based on information provided to the person making the expenditure directly or indirectly by the candidate or the candidate's agents about the candidate's plans, projects, or needs; provided, that the candidate or the candidate's agents are aware that the other person has made or is planning to make expenditures expressly advocating the candidate's election

See R.I. Gen Law § 17-25-23. Additionally, pursuant to the Act, "expenditures made by any person in cooperation, consultation or concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate, the candidate's authorized political committees, or their agents shall be considered to be a contribution to the candidate." See RI Gen Law § 17-25-10.1(c).

Previously, Elorza conspired with a group of predominately Providence's East Side residents (hereinafter the "Group"), of which Myrth York was a key player. The Group's goal was to raise money to aid or promote the election of Elorza and specifically defeat Cianci. On September 19, 2014, GOLocal Providence published an article "*Confidential Memo Unveils Secret Fund to Beat Buddy Cianci*". See attached, a copy of the September 19, 2014 Article. In this article a confidential email was published, which was sent on September 16, 2014 by Lorne Adrain (hereinafter "Adrain"), to twenty three other people, including Myrth York. In this email, Adrain states that the Group must raise between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 in an effort to defeat Buddy; and that "Jorge has to do his own thing and might make sense for him to stay positive while we work to undermine Buddy." The email clearly indicates that the Group strategized with the Elorza campaign. Moreover, this email identifies Myrth York as one of the key people to be responsible for establishing the group as an IRC501(c)(3) organization, clearly identifying her as an active member strategizing with Elorza and the Group.

The Group, however, appears to not have been formed after their email was reported by GOLocal Providence on September 19, 2014 and a follow up report was published on September 20, 2014 questioning the legality of the groups methods, including its coordination with the Elorza Campaign and its intent to form a tax exempt organization IRC501(c)(4) without a valid purpose. *See attached, a copy of Article "Will Secret Anti-Cianci Fund Prove Successful?" published by GOLocal Providence, September 20, 2014. **The Providence Journal also published an article where Adrain admits to having had many meetings with campaign advisors to Elorza, and that this was a "problem".** See attached Report "Adrain pulls plug on anti-Cianci media effort in Providence mayor race" published by The Providence Journal, October 6, 2014. Elorza and the Group's plan was subverted only after it was made public by being published in the local media.*

Myrth York has revised the Group in the form of Priorities PVD. The September email clearly establishes a relationship between Myrth York and Elorza and Myrth York has identified herself as the treasurer of Priorities PVD. The email references strategy discussions whereby it was decided that it was best for Elorza's campaign to focus on a "positive" message and for this new secret entity to work to "undermine Buddy" and identifies Myrth York as key player in the anti Cianci campaign. **Moreover, in a follow up story in the Providence Journal, Adrain, the other key member of the Group, admits to having had many meetings with campaign advisors to Candidate Elorza, indicating that Elorza was aware that this group was planning to make these expenditures in order to help his campaign.** Accordingly, Myrth York, Priorities PVD and Elorza have violated the Act, as they are working in coordination with each other and none of them have reported their affiliation and filed the proper finance reports disclosing their donors and expenditures.

Moreover, Myrth York has already donated a total of one thousand (\$1000) dollars directly to the Elorza Campaign. *See attached a copy of Finance Reports for Jorge Elorza 2014.* Myrth York has therefore reached the limit allowed to an individual to donate to a single candidate pursuant to RI Gen Law § 17-25-10.1(a)(1). Accordingly, any personal contributions expended by Myrth York in conjunction with Priorities PVD and Elorza are illegal.

For the above stated reasons we demand that the Board conduct a full investigation into this matter and order Myrth York, Priorities PVD and Elorza to cease and desist all illegal contributions and expenditures and to cease all television advertisements developed and produced in violation of the Act, including the anti Cianci video posted on YouTube.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

CIANCI FOR MAYOR

By and through its attorneys,

Michael A. Kelly
John O. Mancini
Kelly & Mancini, PC
128 Dorrance St, Suite 300
Providence, RI 02903

CIANCI FOR MAYOR

By: _____
Campaign Manager

STATE of RHODE ISLAND
COUNTY of _____

In _____, on the ___ day of October, 2014, before me personally appeared _____, to me known and known by me to be the party executing the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged said instrument by him executed to be his free act and deed.

NOTARY PUBLIC

Print name: _____

My commission expires: ___ / ___ / ___

COX MEDIA - EAST
 CCI - CFC A/R
 P.O. BOX 105353
 ATLANTA, GA 30348
 (877)695-3338

Client Spot Listing

PRIORITIES PVD
 22 LONDON STREET
 EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818

Contract ID : 735401
 Contract Type : Standard
 Remarks : Priorities PVD

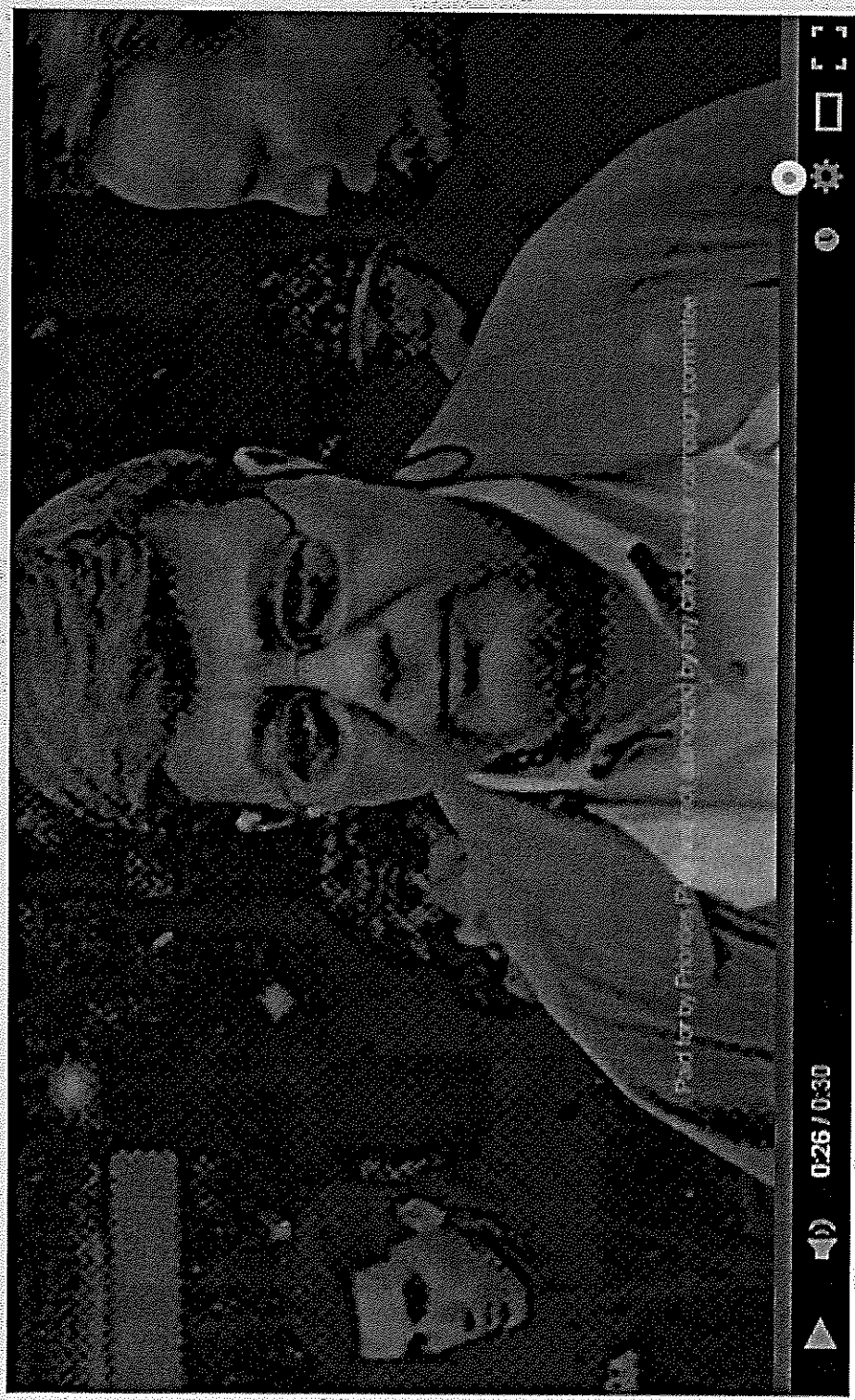
Air Date	Client ID	Client Name	Contract ID	Line	Zone	Network	Program Name	Air Time	AdCopy ID	AdCopy Name	Status	Road-block ID
Client Name: PRIORITIES PVD												
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	31	PROVID	CNNE	New Day	06:15:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	16
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	32	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	New Day	06:15:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	16
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	56	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	New Day	06:31:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	28
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	55	PROVID	CNNE	New Day	06:31:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	28
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	59	PROVID	FXNC	Fox and Friends	06:48:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	30
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	60	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	Fox and Friends	06:48:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	30
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	42	PROVIDENCE	MNBC	Morning Joe	06:49:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	21
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	41	PROVID	MNBC	Morning Joe	06:49:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	21
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	32	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	New Day	07:50:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	16
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	31	PROVID	CNNE	New Day	07:50:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	16
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	31	PROVID	CNNE	New Day	08:15:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	16
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	32	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	New Day	08:15:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	16
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	66	PROVIDENCE	CNBE	Squawk on the Street	09:29:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	33
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	65	PROVID	CNBE	Squawk on the Street	09:29:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	33
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	85	PROVID	CNBE	Closing Bell	03:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	33
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	66	PROVIDENCE	CNBE	Closing Bell	03:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	33
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	52	PROVIDENCE	USAE	NCIS	05:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	26
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	51	PROVID	USAE	NCIS	05:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	26
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	34	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	Situation Room	06:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	17
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	33	PROVID	CNNE	Situation Room	06:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	17
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	50	PROVIDENCE	TNTE	Tower Heist	06:31:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	49	PROVID	TNTE	Tower Heist	06:31:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	33	PROVID	CNNE	Crossfire	06:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	17
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	34	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	Crossfire	06:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	17
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	63	PROVID	FXNC	Greta Van Susteren	07:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	32
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	64	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	Greta Van Susteren	07:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	32
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	47	PROVID	BRVO	Million Dollar LA	08:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	24
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	45	PROVID	ESPN	Clev Caval@Mem Grizzi	08:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	23
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	48	PROVIDENCE	BRVO	Million Dollar LA	08:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	24
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	46	PROVIDENCE	ESPN	Clev Caval@Mem Grizzi	08:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	23
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	213	PROVID	MNBC	All in With Chris...	08:29:00 PM	0	None	Sched	107
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	214	PROVIDENCE	MNBC	All in With Chris...	08:29:00 PM	0	None	Sched	107
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	39	PROVID	HISTE	American Pickers	08:45:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	20
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	40	PROVIDENCE	HISTE	American Pickers	08:45:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	20
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	67	PROVID	FXNC	The O'Reilly Factor	08:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	68	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	The O'Reilly Factor	08:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	214	PROVIDENCE	MNBC	The Rachel Maddow Sho	09:29:00 PM	0	None	Sched	107
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	213	PROVID	MNBC	The Rachel Maddow Sho	09:29:00 PM	0	None	Sched	107
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	196	PROVIDENCE	ESPN	Clev Caval@Mem Grizzi	09:45:00 PM	0	None	Sched	98
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	195	PROVID	ESPN	Clev Caval@Mem Grizzi	09:45:00 PM	0	None	Sched	98
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	212	PROVIDENCE	HISTE	American Pickers	10:15:00 PM	0	None	Sched	106
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	211	PROVID	HISTE	American Pickers	10:15:00 PM	0	None	Sched	106
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	61	PROVID	TNTE	Franklin & Bash	10:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	31
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	62	PROVIDENCE	TNTE	Franklin & Bash	10:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	31
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	199	PROVID	FOOD	Cutthroat Kitchen	10:18:00 PM	0	None	Sched	100
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	200	PROVIDENCE	FOOD	Cutthroat Kitchen	10:18:00 PM	0	None	Sched	100
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	58	PROVIDENCE	USAE	Chrisley Knows Best	10:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	29
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	57	PROVID	USAE	Chrisley Knows Best	10:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	29
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	68	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	Hannity	10:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	67	PROVID	FXNC	Hannity	10:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	48	PROVIDENCE	BRVO	Watch What Happens	11:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	24

Air Date	Client ID	Client Name	Contract			Network	Program Name	Air Time	AdCopy		Status	Road-block ID
			ID	Line	Zone				ID	AdCopy Name		
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	62	PROVIDENCE	TNTE	Franklin & Bash	11:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	31
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	47	PROVID	BRVO	Watch What Happens	11:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	24
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	61	PROVID	TNTE	Franklin & Bash	11:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	31
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	44	PROVIDENCE	FOOD	Cutthroat Kitchen	11:18:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	22
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	43	PROVID	FOOD	Cutthroat Kitchen	11:18:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	22
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	53	PROVID	HGTV	Property Brothers	11:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	27
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	54	PROVIDENCE	HGTV	Property Brothers	11:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	27
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	36	PROVIDENCE	TBSC	Conan	11:45:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	18
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	35	PROVID	TBSC	Conan	11:45:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	18
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	43	PROVID	FOOD	Cutthroat Kitchen	11:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	22
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	68	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	The O'Reilly Factor	11:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	44	PROVIDENCE	FOOD	Cutthroat Kitchen	11:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	22
10/22/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	67	PROVID	FXNC	The O'Reilly Factor	11:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	55	PROVID	CNNE	New Day	06:31:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	28
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	56	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	New Day	06:31:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	28
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	56	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	New Day	07:31:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	28
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	55	PROVID	CNNE	New Day	07:31:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	28
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	201	PROVID	FXNC	Fox and Friends	07:48:00 AM	0	None	Sched	101
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	202	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	Fox and Friends	07:48:00 AM	0	None	Sched	101
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	42	PROVIDENCE	MNBC	Morning Joe	08:29:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	21
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	41	PROVID	MNBC	Morning Joe	08:29:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	21
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	59	PROVID	FXNC	Fox and Friends	08:48:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	30
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	60	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	Fox and Friends	08:48:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	30
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	42	PROVIDENCE	MNBC	Morning Joe	08:49:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	21
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	41	PROVID	MNBC	Morning Joe	08:49:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	21
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	58	PROVIDENCE	CNNE	New Day	08:50:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	28
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	55	PROVID	CNNE	New Day	08:50:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	28
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	66	PROVIDENCE	CNBE	Squawk Alley	11:29:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	33
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	65	PROVID	CNBE	Squawk Alley	11:29:00 AM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	33
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	65	PROVID	CNBE	Fast Money Halftime	12:29:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	33
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	68	PROVIDENCE	CNBE	Fast Money Halftime	12:29:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	33
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	49	PROVID	TNTE	Castle	04:31:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	50	PROVIDENCE	TNTE	Castle	04:31:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	49	PROVID	TNTE	Castle	04:45:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	49	PROVID	TNTE	Castle	04:45:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	52	PROVIDENCE	USAE	Law & Order: SVU	04:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	26
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	51	PROVID	USAE	Law & Order: SVU	04:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	26
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	50	PROVIDENCE	TNTE	Castle	05:31:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	49	PROVID	TNTE	Castle	05:31:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	49	PROVID	TNTE	Castle	06:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	50	PROVIDENCE	TNTE	Castle	06:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	51	PROVID	USAE	Law & Order: SVU	06:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	26
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	62	PROVIDENCE	USAE	Law & Order: SVU	06:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	26
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	49	PROVID	TNTE	Castle	07:31:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	50	PROVIDENCE	TNTE	Castle	07:31:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	25
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	64	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	Greta Van Susteren	07:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	32
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	63	PROVID	FXNC	Greta Van Susteren	07:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	32
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	73	PROVID	NESN	NY Islande@Boston Brui	07:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	37
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	74	PROVIDENCE	NESN	NY Islande@Boston Brui	07:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	37
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	47	PROVID	BRVO	Inside Actor's Studio	08:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	24
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	48	PROVIDENCE	BRVO	Inside Actor's Studio	08:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	24
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	195	PROVID	ESPN	MIA (FL)@VA Tech	08:15:00 PM	0	None	Sched	98
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	196	PROVIDENCE	ESPN	MIA (FL)@VA Tech	08:15:00 PM	0	None	Sched	98
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	210	PROVIDENCE	HGTV	Rehab Addict	08:20:00 PM	0	None	Sched	105
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	209	PROVID	HGTV	Rehab Addict	08:20:00 PM	0	None	Sched	105
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	214	PROVIDENCE	MNBC	All In With Chris...	08:49:00 PM	0	None	Sched	107
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	213	PROVID	MNBC	All In With Chris...	08:49:00 PM	0	None	Sched	107
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	210	PROVIDENCE	HGTV	Rehab Addict	08:50:00 PM	0	None	Sched	105
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	74	PROVIDENCE	NESN	NY Islande@Boston Brui	08:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	37
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	209	PROVID	HGTV	Rehab Addict	08:50:00 PM	0	None	Sched	105
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	73	PROVID	NESN	NY Islande@Boston Brui	08:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	37
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	215	PROVID	TBSC	The Big Bang Theory	09:45:00 PM	0	None	Sched	108
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	216	PROVIDENCE	TBSC	The Big Bang Theory	09:45:00 PM	0	None	Sched	108
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	45	PROVID	ESPN	MIA (FL)@VA Tech	09:45:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	23
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	46	PROVIDENCE	ESPN	MIA (FL)@VA Tech	09:45:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	23
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	44	PROVIDENCE	FOOD	Chopped	09:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	22
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	43	PROVID	FOOD	Chopped	09:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	22
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	53	PROVID	HGTV	Rehab Addict	09:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	27
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	54	PROVIDENCE	HGTV	Rehab Addict	09:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	27
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	211	PROVID	HISTE	Pawn Stars	10:15:00 PM	0	None	Sched	106
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	212	PROVIDENCE	HISTE	Pawn Stars	10:15:00 PM	0	None	Sched	106
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	45	PROVID	ESPN	MIA (FL)@VA Tech	10:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	23
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	48	PROVIDENCE	BRVO	Manzo'd With Children	10:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	24
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	46	PROVIDENCE	ESPN	MIA (FL)@VA Tech	10:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	23
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	47	PROVID	BRVO	Manzo'd With Children	10:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	24
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	199	PROVID	FOOD	Beat Bobby Flay	10:18:00 PM	0	None	Sched	100
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	200	PROVIDENCE	FOOD	Beat Bobby Flay	10:18:00 PM	0	None	Sched	100

Air Date	Client ID	Client Name	Contract ID	Line	Zone	Network	Program Name	Air Time	AdCopy ID	AdCopy Name	Status	Read-block ID
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	72	PROVIDENCE	LIFE	Project Runway	10:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	36
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	68	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	Hannity	10:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	71	PROVID	LIFE	Project Runway	10:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	36
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	67	PROVID	FXNC	Hannity	10:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	195	PROVID	ESPN	MIA (FL)@VA Tech	10:45:00 PM	0	None	Sched	98
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	196	PROVIDENCE	ESPN	MIA (FL)@VA Tech	10:45:00 PM	0	None	Sched	98
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	54	PROVIDENCE	HGTV	House Hunters Intl	10:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	27
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	53	PROVID	HGTV	House Hunters Intl	10:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	27
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	61	PROVID	TNTE	On the Menu	11:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	31
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	62	PROVIDENCE	TNTE	On the Menu	11:15:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	31
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	57	PROVID	USAE	Modern Family	11:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	29
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	53	PROVID	HGTV	Fixer Upper	11:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	27
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	58	PROVIDENCE	USAE	Modern Family	11:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	29
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	54	PROVIDENCE	HGTV	Fixer Upper	11:20:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	27
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	67	PROVID	FXNC	The O'Reilly Factor	11:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	68	PROVIDENCE	FXNC	The O'Reilly Factor	11:48:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	34
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	57	PROVID	USAE	Modern Family	11:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	29
10/23/14	38642	PRIORITIES PV	735401	58	PROVIDENCE	USAE	Modern Family	11:50:00 PM	1	Cant Afford	Sched	29

Client Name PRIORITIES PVD: 146

Grand Total 146



Can't Afford

Priorities Pvd

Subscribe 1

665 views

Add to Share ... More

3 0

5 Good Things That Happened To The Patriots This Weekend—Pats relaxed as good things happened for them.



Follow us on

Home News Sports Politics Business Real Estate Weather Food Health Lifestyle Beauty & Fashion ActNowRI

EXCLUSIVE: Confidential Memo Unveils Secret Fund to Beat Buddy Cianci

Contact a Commercial Banker today

Friday, September 19, 2014

GoLocalProv News Team and Kate Nagle

Email to a friend Permalink Like

GoLocalProv has obtained a copy of a *confidential memo* outlining the strategy by a group of predominantly East Side residents to create a secret fund of \$1 million to defeat Buddy Cianci for Mayor of Providence this November.

UPDATED 1:00 am

According to a confidential memo emailed by failed Providence Mayoral candidate Lorne Adrain on Tuesday to a group of 29 including a number of former top level staffers to David Cicilline, the group's goal is to create a 501(c)(4) fund – a fund that would not have to disclose its members.

The individuals listed on the memo include: top Washington Trust Banker Ned Handy, former top David Cicilline aides Carol Grant and Deb Brayton, former Providence Journal Editor of the Editorial Page Bob Whitcomb, and three-time candidate for Governor Myrth York, to name a few

The only Latino member of the group, Dr. Pablo Rodríguez, disavowed membership of the group in a phone interview. "I was included in that list, to let me know what's going on," said Dr. Rodríguez. "I wasn't part of the prior conversation."

"I'm not really part of that group – I really can't be in my role as a radio host. I think that they wanted to bring it to my attention. Lorne's been a good friend of mine for ages," added Rodríguez.

Fund Defended

In an interview with GoLocal on Thursday night, Adrain said, "The 501 (c) (4) effort should be formed by tomorrow afternoon (Friday). We know who we're going to call, we've got a great group of people helping about the messaging."

SuperPac and 501(c)(4)s are the popular structures to influence elections and protect the identity of their voters. SuperPacs and 501(c)(4) organizations both shield their donors and both are being used to influence issues and political campaigns.

Non-Profit Quarterly raises issues about the political use of 501(c)(4)s and their impact. "This isn't good news for the nonprofit sector. The Center for Responsive Politics and the Center for Public Integrity report that the spending of super PACs in the 2010 election was big, but super PAC spending was less than that of 501(c)(4) social welfare organizations. The (c)(4)s outspent super PACs by three to two, \$95 million to \$65 million."

The leading organizer of the anti-Cianci 501 (c)(4) defends the effort, "As you might imagine, it's evolving quickly, what started as a conversation about what we think about the race in general, and making sure Buddy's not our Mayor again."

"It turned into things we might do in an independent effort – it takes on a different approach and legal issues. We're serious about doing this right...and hope to be in several days in the position to have the chassis and infrastructure and mission and story and go to the market, and say come with us," said Adrain.

The Secret Memo Carves Out the Strategy

According to the Adrain memo to the group, the messaging outlined is that this group must raise issues about Cianci and make claims about Cianci being a rapist so Elorza can stay positive. The memo links Michael Solomon's former chief of staff and recent campaign manager Jake Bissailon to the effort.

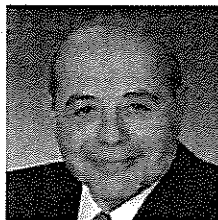
Solomon was narrowly defeated by Jorge Elorza in the Democratic Primary. Solomon, who is the subject of an investigation by the Rhode Island Ethics Commission after a GoLocal investigation into improper reporting of assets in his disclosure reports, endorsed Elorza after the primary.

The Group

Adrain's email thanks members for participating in the effort to organize the group includes:

Myrth York - former Campaign Chair for Brett Smiley and three-time Democratic Nominee for Governor

Carol Grant - former top aide to then-Mayor David Cicilline, business executive for Verizon and Textron



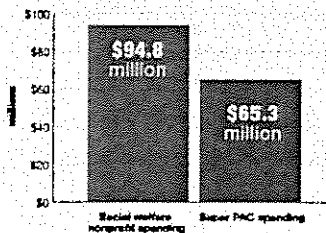
Most Popular Articles

	Today	Week	Month
1	UPDATED: Providence Resident Is 4th American with Ebola		
2	Superman Building Has Zero Value, Appraisal Shows		
3	NEW: Providence Named America's Favorite City by Travel+Leisure		
4	Providence Police – A Department in Chaos		
5	Exclusive: Filmmaker and Anti-Cianci Backer Corrente Named in \$5.8 Million Lawsuit		

Last 30 days

Secret donors propel nonprofit political spending

Nonprofit "social welfare" organizations outspent the more highly publicized super PACs in 2010 on elections. Both can accept unlimited contributions from corporations, unions and wealthy individuals, but nonprofits do not have to report their donors.



Watch News by the Center for Public Integrity

OpenSecrets.org Center for Responsive Politics

TECH NITE OPEN HOUSE
 NOV. 5, 2014
 3 - 7 p.m.
 EAST GREENWICH, RI CAMPUS

NEW ENGLAND TECH
 75 Years

LEARN MORE

Questions about college planning?

Free help is available at the College Planning Center of RI

Book your appointment

COLLEGE PLANNING CENTER

- Deb Brayton - former top aide to then-Senator Lincoln Chafee and then-Mayor David Cicilline
- Jack Partridge - Providence Lawyer
- David Preston - Political Consultant
- Ned Handy - President and COO of Washington Trust Bank
- Tony Gross - Executive Director of the Institute for Non-Violence
- Both the Cianci and Elorza campaigns refused comment.

From: Jurena adrain <jadrain@clancifund.com>
 Date: Tue, Sep 16, 2014 at 12:03 PM
 Subject: Thank you! Confidential
 To: Steve Geremia <stgeria@clancifund.com>; Mr. John J. Partridge <jpar@clancifund.com>; Michael A. Solomon <msolom@clancifund.com>; Richard L. Conner <rconner@clancifund.com>; Mr. Sally Swackhamer <sswackhamer@clancifund.com>; Mr. Michael Paganoni <mpaganoni@clancifund.com>; Sara E. Knight <sknight@clancifund.com>; Mr. Geoffrey Kirman <gkirman@clancifund.com>; Mr. Mickey Rosemont <mrosemont@clancifund.com>; Mr. Derek Patten <dpatten@clancifund.com>; Mr. Deb Grayton <dgrayton@clancifund.com>; William C. Cullen <wcullen@clancifund.com>; Myra York <myra@clancifund.com>; Mr. Carol J. Grant <cgrant@clancifund.com>; David Preston, Esq. <dpreston@clancifund.com>; Robert (Bob) Lewis <rbowen@clancifund.com>; Mr. Cindy Reed <cindy@clancifund.com>; Robert (Bob) Lewis <rbowen@clancifund.com>; John Farmer <jfarmer@clancifund.com>; Mr. Terry Grant <tgrant@clancifund.com>; Mr. Sally Landers <sally@clancifund.com>; Mr. David Foley <dfoley@clancifund.com>; Tobias Laskerberg <tobias@clancifund.com>; Michael Alio <mali@clancifund.com>; Teresa Loukberg <teresa@clancifund.com>; Mr. Paolo Rodriguez <prodriguez@clancifund.com>; Mr. Bernie Buonanno Jr. <bernie@clancifund.com>; Frank O'Leary <foleary@clancifund.com>; Mr. Ned Handy <nhandy@clancifund.com>; Mr. Valeria Tolosa <vtolosa@clancifund.com>; Dr. Foukias <dfoukias@clancifund.com>
 Cc: Loris Aukon <laukon@clancifund.com>

Thank you all for being a part of the conversation last night (including those who could not be with us last night).


See note below from Sally re: Payin article on Buddy.

Is there one of you who know how to set up a repository (maybe on google docs) where stuff can be collected/managed/shared?

my take away from last night:

- we have to move VERY quickly or risk not having the outcome we need
- Jorge has to do his own thing and might make sense for him to stay positive while we work to undermine Buddy.
- need to get out statewide political, business, cultural leaders as well as congressional or ex-congress to step up and make statements about Buddy.
- Sally, Myra, Carol, Grace and Michael Conner have established "CAF" entity into which resources to fund communications efforts will be placed.
 - o we assume that the effort will be transparent and that all donors will be disclosed
- we must have a full-time "driver" of this effort as of yesterday. Many large and small firms need to be on and capabilities need FT. Thus while the rest of the volunteers pick up what we can, coordinated by the "driver".
 - o Jane from Elorza campaign suggested as quick start in this position
- some of the ideas are too "hazy" that have to be made:
 - o talk in families
 - I suspect they would be most likely to act by a simple one page with:
 - cost of reputation we are living with
 - cost of pension plan we are living with
 - cost of taxes
 - moral records such as these were?
 - baby stork?
 - other?
 - o many people are afraid to support such an effort out of fear of retribution from Buddy is elected
 - we need to lay out strong and brief arguments that we will be successful for that people to come along

o who to vet




Plans for any size company.



FIX OUR REPUTATION. FIX OUR ECONOMY.

HODGSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

BUDDY
Cianci



for
MAYOR
LEADERSHIP!

clanciformayor.com

Featured listings brought to you by:

BANKRI
BANKRHODEISLAND.COM

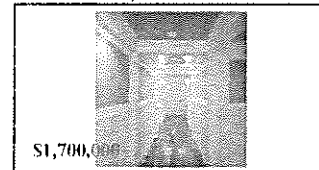
2061 FRENCHTOWN RD East Greenwich, RI



4 Beds 4 Baths 4988 sqft

[View Listing Details](#)

5 LONGMEADOW DR East Greenwich, RI



\$1,700,000
4 Beds 5 Baths 4901 sqft

[View Listing Details](#)

No recent activity to display.

- (Support Jack Gardner is right about this one - voters are used by different things than Gardner
 - we have to not to double in the mind of voters
 - we have to do the work in the area to force our way through
 - what?
- need to do focus groups and then polling to determine what issues will "move the needle" for voters

Please reply all with what others please (the way you had from the conversation)

**WE HAVE FIVE WEEKS
TO GET THIS DONE!!!!**

RAISE \$500,000-1,000,000

INVEST \$500,00-1,000,000

IN EFFORTS THAT

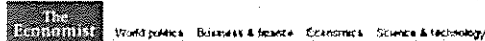
INSURE BUDDY IS NOT

MAYOR AGAIN AND THE

CITY CAN MOVE

FORWARD.

Related Slideshow: Buddy Cianci in the National Media



Rhode Island politics

Freshening New England's armpit

The ex-mayor who inspired a gangster musical returns

20/10/2014 | PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND | From our archive

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Print](#)

THERE was little doubt what the answer would be when Vincent "Buddy" Cianci, Providence's longest-serving mayor-turned-radio-host, asked his listeners whether he should be run again. The response, as he put it, was "a love fest". Mr Cianci declared candidacy on his show on June 25th. "The fire still burns," he said.

Mr Cianci's previous stint as mayor ended badly in 1984 after a decade on the job. It to resign when he was convicted of assaulting a man with a cigarette, an ashtray and, in 1989 he convinced voters to give him another shot, and did much to spruce up the centre. But in 2002 he was brought down by a federal racketeering probe that landed him prison for nearly five years. To add insult to injury, a musical based on his life premiered Broadway in 2003, featuring catchy numbers like "The Ass You Have to Kiss Today" and "The Armpit of New England" (an unkind reference to Providence).

The Economist

The Economist took a shot at Cianci and the city of Providence, referencing Cianci as a "gangster" and referring to Providence as "New England's armpit."

"Even Mr Cianci's critics concede that he loves Providence and wants it to do well," the article states. "But his reputation could deter businesses from moving to the city, which was once known as the 'beehive of industry.' Not all comebacks are welcome."



Related Articles

- Is WPRO Violating Equal Time with Buddy Cianci Show Title?
- LISTEN: Is WPRO Violating Equal Time with Buddy Cianci Show Title?
- John Perilli: Buddy Cianci's Long, Sad Comeback Trail
- National Media Reacts to Buddy Cianci Running for Mayor
- The Economist Dubs Providence "NE Ampit" and Cianci "Gangster"
- Cianci 1-on-1 Interview: Cicilline "Deficit King" and So Much More
- NEW: Smiley Challenges Cianci to Debate on Ethics and Good Government
- Buddy Cianci: Timeline of His Life
- Cianci's Former Fire Chief Now Earns Pension of Nearly \$200,000 Annually
- Cianci Running for Mayor
- Ron Reacts: The General Assembly and Buddy Cianci
- Ric Santurri: The Big Question— Can Cianci Win?
- LISTEN: "Anybody But Cianci" Group Forming to Take on Buddy
- Who Has the Best Chance to Beat Cianci - Elorza or Solomon (or Harrop)
- NEW: Poll Shows Solomon Can Beat Cianci
- NEW: Cianci Announces Campaign Leadership Team for Providence Mayoral Run
- NEW: Cianci Compares Providence Past and Present in New Ad
- Cianci Names Cyd McKenna Campaign Manager
- GoLocal Goes 1-on-1 With Marrocco: He Slams Cianci and Solomon
- NEW: Former Cianci Driver Rep. Hull Endorses Smiley
- "Anybody But Cianci" Group Forming to Take on Buddy
- Russell Moore: Anybody But Cianci?
- Questions Buddy Cianci Must Answer to be Providence's Next Mayor
- The Scoop: Cianci's New Plan, Fung Got New TV and More

Enjoy this post? Share it with others.

Email to a friend [Permalink](#) [Like](#)

Guest MINDSETTER™ Richard Ferruccio: Cost of Incarceration vs. the Cost of Crime—In a time of difficult state budgets, questions'...



Follow us on

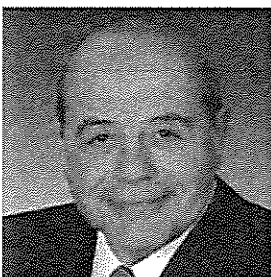
Home News Sports Politics Business Real Estate Weather Food Health Lifestyle Beauty & Fashion ActNowRI

Will Secret Anti-Cianci Fund Prove Successful?

Saturday, September 20, 2014
 Kate Nagle, GoLocal Contributor

Email to a friend Permalink Like

A secret memo from former Mayoral candidate Lorne Adrain to a select group of individuals about the formation of 501(c)(4) to defeat former Mayor Buddy Cianci has raised the question – will it work?



Buddy Cianci

"Since 2010 and when the Supreme Court handed down the decision in Citizens United there's been a proliferation of super PACs and [501] c4 activity – and that hasn't been a welcome development," said John Marion, Executive Director of Common Cause RI.

"For starters, c4s can be used to shield information about donors," Marion continued. "That's really not really they're about. We're a c4. They weren't intended to be vessels for election work primarily, but the IRS hasn't been regulating this kind of c4 political activity. We've seen groups on the left and right using them for political activity for lack of disclosure. They're not tax-deductible, but there are no limits on c4 contributions."

Adrain said Thursday that he expected the group to file the necessary paperwork this week, but group spokesperson Jake Bissalton confirmed on Friday that it had not yet been filed.

Political Experts Weigh In

Darrell West, Vice President and Director of Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., recently published Billionaires: Reflections of the Upper Crust about the role of money – and influence – by the country's wealthiest donors.

"People form these organizations for a variety of different reasons. Some do it to push (or attack) candidates, while others are more issue-based. The key issue is these groups allow people with lots of financial resources to run ads and influence the public discussion," said West.



"EngageRI was a successful effort to push pension reform. It demonstrates that groups armed with serious money can be quite influential," said West of the 501 (c)(4) whose goal had been to achieve pension reform in Rhode Island. "We are seeing lots of 501 (c)(4) activity all around the country. It is one of the things I discuss in my Billionaires book. These groups represent a way to participate in the public dialogue and push particular points of view."

In the confidential memo obtained by GoLocal this week, it showed that the group hoped to raise \$1 million between now and election day to defeat Cianci.

Jennifer Duffy with the Cook Political Report noted that as at 501(c)(4), the group couldn't exist simply to defeat Cianci -- but that it had to find a way to prove it was

Issue-oriented.

"501(c)(4) organizations are expressly prohibited from advocating for the election or defeat of a candidate. These groups, which under the IRS regulations are supposed to 'promote social welfare,' need to focus on issues," said Duffy. "They can inject candidates names into the efforts by talking about an issue and then telling voters to 'call Buddy Cianci and tell him to support blah, blah, blah.'"

Duffy continued, "This is a way for donors to maximize their financial resources, and it gives them an organization to hide behind. There could be a backlash if this group becomes the issue in the race. I trust that Cianci will attempt to make them the issue, and knowing Cianci, he has a good shot at being successful."

Chances for Success?

So will getting the funds help defeat Buddy Cianci?

"Success is far from assured. Any political organization has to successfully raise funding and that's not guaranteed. Even having done so, Crossroads GPS spent millions in the last election, but could claim few victories," said Rhode Island College Professor Kay Israel, noting the case of the national right-wing advocacy group founded by Republican operative Karl Rove.



"While the 501(c)(4) groups have the advantage relating to funding and significant leeway in their actions, it's still up to the candidates to control the agenda and gain the voters' support," said Israel. "Although Gina Raimondo was the victor in the Democratic primary, political junkies are

Sign up for our EMAIL BLAST.

Most Popular Articles

	Today	Week	Month
1	UPDATED: Providence Resident is 4th American with Ebola		
2	Superman Building Has Zero Value, Appraisal Shows		
3	NEW: Providence Named America's Favorite City by Travel+Leisure		
4	Providence Police – A Department in Chaos		
5	Exclusive: Filmmaker and Anti-Cianci Backer Contents Named In \$5.8 Million Lawsuit		

Last 30 days

TECH NITE OPEN HOUSE
 NOV. 5, 2014
 3 - 7 p.m.
 EAST GREENWICH, RI CAMPUS

75 Years

LEARN MORE

Questions about college planning?

Free help is available at the College Planning Center of RI.

Book your appointment

still questioning whether it was due to the larger expenditures supporting her or the presence of Clay Pell that cost Taveras the nomination."

Veteran political pollster Vic Profughi spoke to role of the electorate ultimately in determining the outcome.

"I think there has been in the past a fairly substantial number of voters across the city who have resented the power of the East Side -- rightly or wrongly -- and have had the residual effect of not liking being dictated," said Profughi. "The real question I think is how the Hispanic community reacts to all of this, and frankly, I don't know."

New Email Surfaces

On Friday, several of the names listed on the email Adrain sent on Tuesday denied having any association with the group.

"Didn't attend any meetings and don't belong to any group," said Tony Gross with the Institute for Nonviolence.

"I was not at the meeting, will not be supporting this effort," said Cynthia Stewart Reed.

"I have no idea why I was on the [email] chain, I never gave money to Lorne and wasn't at the meeting," said Sally Lapides.

Former Providence Journal editorial writer Robert Whitcomb said he was "in favor of defeating Cianci," but could not give money or take a formal role in campaigns being an independent journalist. "Buddy's election would mean circuses if not bread," said Whitcomb.



Now, a new email has surfaced showing that Adrain had included Jorge Elorza's email on message sent on Monday about organizing efforts.

Elorza's campaign said that he did not reply; Blasezion said when asked if the group was coordinating with Elorza said, "No."

"It's the responsibility of the Board of Elections to police this, but they only do so on complaint from the public," said Marion. "I don't think I'm qualified to say whether this was an instance of coordination because you need to see more than just an email." Marion said the definition of the state law could be seen here.

"There are rules on coordinating with a candidates. Groups have to be careful not to discuss strategy or coordinate outreach efforts. From the email, I am not sure whether this group crossed that line. Merely talking with a candidate would not constitute evidence of unlawful coordination," said West. "But if they had formal plans to dovetail their activities, that would be problematic."

Related Slideshow: Questions Buddy Cianci Must Answer to be Providence's Next Mayor



Staff recruitment?

When GoLocal first started looking into the possibility of Buddy entering the race, we asked of his former staff, "Where are they now?"

Buddy's been out of office for 12 years. Anyone of voting age then is now over 30. And anyone who was a Buddy disciple had to move on, forge a new career path, or retire. Much like the voting block -- who is Buddy's new base of support from a staff perspective? Can he snag young social media savvy professionals -- what do they know of Buddy's legacy? Can he lure folks away from secure positions for a high degree of uncertainty?

Buddy's got the headquarters, and is undoubtedly putting a team in place, but seems to be keeping a low-profile as the primary campaigns heat up. Watch to see if he can pull any defectors from the losing Democratic campaigns who see Buddy as the more viable way into City Hall than their former opponent who just beat them.

Year One:
One of the top
health benefits exchanges
in the nation.

Plans for any size company.

FIX OUR REPUTATION.
FIX OUR ECONOMY.

HODGSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

THE GREAT WINDOW GIVEAWAY

ENTER TO WIN
NEW WINDOWS
FOR YOUR
ENTIRE HOME!

ENTER TODAY!

Some Restrictions apply. One Winner for Each Home.

Featured listings brought to you by:

BANKRI
BANKRIHUB@ISLAND.COM

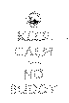
No recent activity to display



Staff recruitment?



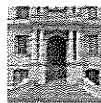
Age and illness?



Laugh Test?



Providence as U.S. Job?



Can he win?

Related Articles

- The Economist Dubs Providence "NE Armpit" and Cienci "Gangster"
- National Media Reacts to Buddy Cienci Running for Mayor
- Ric Santuni: The Big Question-- Can Cienci Win?
- LISTEN: "Anybody But Cienci" Group Forming to Take on Buddy
- NEW: Former Cienci Driver Rep. Hull Endorses Smiley
- John Perilli: Buddy Cienci's Long, Sad Comeback Trail
- Is WPRO Violating Equal Time with Buddy Cienci Show Title?
- Ron Reacts: The General Assembly and Buddy Cienci
- NEW: Smiley Challenges Cienci to Debate on Ethics and Good Government
- Questions Buddy Cienci Must Answer to be Providence's Next Mayor
- GoLocal Goes 1-on-1 With Marocco. He Slams Cienci and Solomon
- Cienci Names Cyd McKenna Campaign Manager
- NEW: Poll Shows Solomon Can Beat Cienci
- Will Secret Anti-Cienci Fund Prove Successful?
- Cienci 1-on-1 Interview: Ciciline "Deficit King" and So Much More
- LISTEN: Is WPRO Violating Equal Time with Buddy Cienci Show Title?
- "Anybody But Cienci" Group Forming to Take on Buddy
- Russell Moore: Anybody But Cienci?
- NEW: Cienci Compares Providence Past and Present in New Ad
- NEW: Cienci Announces Campaign Leadership Team for Providence Mayoral Run
- The Scoop: Cienci's New Plan, Fung Got New TV and More
- NEW: Cienci Fires Back at Leaked Secret Fund Memo
- EXCLUSIVE: Confidential Memo Unveils Secret Fund to Beat Buddy Cienci
- Who Has the Best Chance to Beat Cienci - Elorza or Solomon (or Harrop)

Enjoy this post? Share it with others.



Email to a friend

Permalink

Like



Home > Politics

Adrain pulls plug on anti-Cianci media effort in Providence mayor race

Published: October 08, 2014 10:24 PM

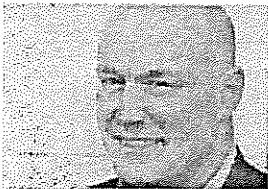
BY JOHN HILL

JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

jhill@providencejournal.com

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The organizer of a planned committee that was going to seek donations to finance a media effort to blunt Vincent A. “Buddy” Cianci Jr.’s mayoral campaign said Monday he has dropped the idea.

Lorne Adrain, who was an announced candidate for mayor this spring before withdrawing his candidacy in July, said legal questions about whether he could lead such a committee and the short time it would have had to raise money were his main reasons.



Lorne Adrain was briefly a candidate for mayor himself.

The kind of committee Adrain was considering would have been able to raise money beyond the donation limits imposed on candidate committees. The plan was to call it “Providence Forward” and have it publicize the history of Cianci’s past administrations, including the 2002 federal conviction for racketeering conspiracy that led to him serving 4 1/2 years in federal prison.

Adrain said the law on such committees allows them to run educational campaigns about issues, but the efforts must be conducted independently of any specific candidate. Adrain has had many meetings with campaign advisers to Democratic mayoral candidate Jorge O. Elorza, and he said that could have created a problem.

“My reading of the laws was that I could not lead such an effort,” he said.

Adrain said another problem was that his plan had been to move quickly, and that would have meant a fundraising window of about two weeks. That turned out to be too ambitious a timeline, particularly with the legal questions to resolve, he said.

Though he is dropping the political education committee strategy, Adrain said he still planned to try to convince voters not to vote for Cianci.

Cianci said he was not surprised that Adrain abandoned the effort.

“I never felt this was a threat to me, to be honest with you,” he said.

Cianci said Adrain and his contributors instead should take the money they were planning on collecting, “and donate it to Hasbro Children’s Hospital and do something useful with it instead of undermining me and my character and my family.”

“This campaign is not about character assassination,” he said. “... It’s about having a vision for Providence.”

Earlier this year, Adrain had announced he was running for mayor as a Democrat, but then switched to independent on June 25, the deadline to formally declare a candidacy. Then, on July 11, he decided to drop his effort entirely, saying he was worried his presence on the November ballot could split anti-Cianci voters and make it easier for the former mayor to win.

PROVIDENCE
Journal | providencejournal.com

Newspaper: (401) 277-7300 | Classifieds: (401) 277-7700 | Display Advertising: (401) 277-9666 | Subscriptions: (401) 277-7000
Copyright © 2014, (L)IQ Rhode Island Holdings, Inc. All Rights Reserved. 75 Fountain St., Providence, RI 02902
This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or commercially redistributed.

Rhode Island Board of Elections
Campaign Finance Electronic Reporting & Tracking System (ERTS)
JORGE ELORZA
Public Contribution Report

[Return](#)

Summary Totals

Results per page: **10** ▼

Summary Groupings	Total
Individual	\$1,000.00

1

Note: The results below may be resorted by simply clicking on the column heading of the column you wish to sort.

Contributions

(Export Detail to comma delimited file)

Results per page: **15** ▼

Donor	Employer	Type	Amount	Receipt Date	Deposit Date	
York, Myrth	York Resources	Individual	\$800.00	10/03/2014		ShowDetails...
York, Myrth	York Resources	Individual	\$200.00	09/10/2014		ShowDetails...

1

Note: Returns of contribution may be included in both contribution and expenditure search results.

**Rhode Island Board of Elections
 Campaign finance Electronic Reporting & Tracking System (ERTS)
 Detailed Contribution Report**

Report Created: October 21, 2014 4:42 PM

Trans #	Contribution Type	Receipt Date	Deposit Date	Amount	MPF
521924	Individual	10/03/2014		\$800.00	N/A

Organization	JORGE ELORZA				
Trans Type	Check				
Donor Name	York, Myrth	Employer Name	York Resources		
Donor Address	44 Hazard Avenue	Employer Address	1287 Silverstrand Drive		
	Providence, RI 02906		Naples, FL 34110		

Contribution Explanation

Incomplete Description

[Close Window](#)

**Rhode Island Board of Elections
 Campaign finance Electronic Reporting & Tracking System (ERTS)
 Detailed Contribution Report**

Report Created: October 21, 2014 4:43 PM

Trans #	Contribution Type	Receipt Date	Deposit Date	Amount	MPF
522922	Individual	09/10/2014		\$200.00	N/A

Organization	JORGE ELORZA				
Trans Type	Check				
Donor Name	York, Myrth	Employer Name	York Resources		
Donor Address	44 Hazard Avenue Providence, RI 02906	Employer Address	1287 Silverstrand Drive Naples, FL 34110		

Contribution Explanation

Incomplete Description

[Close Window](#)