

Ms. Rowe,

I'm writing in response to your Elections Challenge for the West Hills Neighborhood Council Board Elections on September 29, 2012.

You stated that the Challenge was based on "Campaign Material Issues" and "Inappropriate endorsements of candidate" as the reason for your challenge.

The Challenge falls short on both counts.

Campaign slates are not prohibited, in fact they are a campaign strategy that is discussed during Outreach Workshops and Candidate Workshops. In this case, the "slate" was allegedly sent by email from a non-candidate and would be more appropriately referred to as an "endorsement" or "recommendation."

The document you attached as evidence appears to be sent by Bob Rostoff and is signed with this disclaimer "These recommendations are being made by me as an individual stakeholder in West Hills." This can hardly be construed as an illegal or inappropriate endorsement.

Your request for access to information regarding the recipients of Mr. Brostoff's email is outside the purview of EmpowerLA and the Elections Division which has no authority over or access to Mr. Brostoff's email account or contact list.

Ultimately, you have offered no evidence of inappropriate behavior and any requests for an investigation are based on speculation that something may have impacted the WHNC elections, all of which is unsubstantiated by any evidence.

Your challenge and your request for an investigation is rejected.

Thank you for your commitment to the integrity of the Neighborhood Council electoral process.