

I wanted to pass along something that's perhaps of interest, and which seems relevant in light of your Oct. 12 article about the East Hampton Republican Committee's evidently tardy campaign finance filing. Consider this a news tip – if you want it can be refashioned as a letter and I'll say more.

The attached ad from the "QSC PAC" ran in the East Hampton Press on Oct. 11th. It's a nasty piece of work, grossly inaccurate, etc. but that's not why I'm writing to you. I'm writing because they appear to be far out of compliance with Election Law and campaign finance reporting requirements, which is rather rich given the smears they make against the EH Republican Committee.

The ad was paid for by the "QSC PAC," or as they are officially known to the New York State Board of Elections, the "Q.S.C. P.A.C. (QUIET SKIES COALITION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE) – Filer ID A21200. Look it up in the state database.

Funny, the last filing they made was the July 2017 Periodic Report, which lists no activity. In fact, all their reports going back to 2015 also show no activity.

They did not file the required 32-Day Pre-General Report – the same report in fact that you noted in reference to our Committee.

So where did the money for this full-page ad in the Press come from? What else have they been up to? What else is being planned in the 3-plus weeks leading up to the Election? We have both a legal and frankly ethical right to know. Let them hold themselves to a fraction of standard they seem to demand of us.

Sure, some folks – and indeed this paper – objected to some of the legal and freely disclosed contributions made to our Committee in 2015, something you note isn't the case this time. Fine. That's the purpose of the disclosure requirements. Ask yourself who is hiding their contributors, and why?

You might say that the ad's headline "Greed, Arrogance and the East Hampton Airport" is a bit of projection. Or hypocrisy. Or just more disinformation.

And it's actually worse from a legal perspective.

Under New York Election Law, any PAC that runs ads or does other direct political activity is actually an Independent Expenditure Committee, which requires an additional set of filings. For the period between Oct. 6 and Nov. 8th, the QSC PAC must report expenses and contributions over a certain threshold must be 24-hours.

None of those have been filed. Not a single one.

If you're going to hit our Committee for a small delay in filing its disclosure report, you ought to look at these characters.

Again, consider this a news tip. It's not off the record, and quote me if you want or we can talk more. But if this is relegated to the letters page, I'd like to restructure it first.