



Grievance Determination

Grievant's Name: Zachary Volet

Neighborhood Council: West Hills Neighborhood Council

Grievance Number: 248

Complainant Alleges Violation of the Following: Neighborhood Council Bylaw; Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Policy

Date Received: July 23, 2020

Date of Department Review: August 3, 2020

GRIEVANCE-PROCESS:

The Department reviews all Grievances to determine whether the Grievance conforms to the Grievance Policy. Upon a determination that a Grievance conforms to the Policy, the Department certifies the Grievance and notifies the affected Neighborhood Council that the Grievance may proceed through the Grievance process established herein. The certification of a Grievance by the Department shall not be construed as a statement regarding the validity or invalidity of the Grievance. If a determination is made that the grievance has merit, a notification is sent to the Neighborhood Council in question describing the suggested remedy.

Dear, Mr. Volet:

Thank you for contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) via the [Grievance Portal](#) relative to your grievance against the West Hills Neighborhood Council on July 23, 2020. The Neighborhood Council Grievance process is, in general, authorized to address alleged violations of the Neighborhood Council's rules, Los Angeles City ordinances regarding the Neighborhood Council system, Neighborhood Council funding rules from the City Clerk, or policies of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment or Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC). The jurisdiction of complaints that are reviewed under the Neighborhood Council Grievance process is limited in scope. For example, the Neighborhood Council Grievance process is prohibited from addressing allegations against individual board members or addressing violations of State or Federal law.

Your grievance alleges:

1. (A), "During our Government Relations Committee meeting on 7/20/20, the Committee was discussing Council File 20-0859. During this discussion, several Committee Members, Non-Committee Board Members attending this meeting, and members of the public attending the meeting, questioned the motivations of Steve Randall, a committee and Board Member, and his opposition to a Community Impact Statement in support of CF 20-0859. Steve Randall's response to these questions was to announce "I'm not the one on this Committee with an arrest record," clearly attempting smear other members of the Committee, and also implying he has been conducting background searches of his political opponents."

RESPONSE: The allegations above are considered to be outside of the jurisdiction of the grievance process. The grievance alleges wrongdoing against an individual, which is, not an appropriate matter to be resolved under the Neighborhood Council Grievance process.

After carefully reviewing your grievance, the Department found that the allegations in your grievance are matters pertaining to issues outside of the jurisdiction of the Grievance process and therefore are prohibited from being addressed through the Neighborhood Council Grievance process. Accordingly, this grievance is closed.

Thank you for bringing this issue to the Department's attention. I hope the Department's description of the Neighborhood Council's Grievance process of the rules provides clarification of the circumstances in question.

Respectfully,