

State of Ohio)

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County of Wood)

My name is Steven Kramer. I swear and attest to the following:

I have resided in Perrysburg since 1978. I am Professor Emeritus at the University of Toledo, having taught Mechanical Engineering from 1973 until my retirement 35 years later in 2008. Since then I have been a volunteer math and science tutor, first at Perrysburg Heights Community Association [PHCA], and now at Perrysburg High School every day of the week.

I was a member of the PHCA Board of Trustees in 2012 and 2013 and was present at every one of their monthly board meetings in that time frame. Plus, I have read the minutes and treasurer's reports issued then.

Let me first say what I think is quite important: In this letter I am speaking for myself, Steven Kramer; someone present during the time frame in question. Although I am currently still on the board of trustees, I am not representing them nor the Perrysburg Heights Community Association.

About Jason:

I met Harold "Jason" Craig in 2010 and got to know him quite well. I understand Jason Craig was convicted and is presently serving his sentence at ODRC in Mansfield, Ohio. Here are my recollections from memory and from review of the minutes and treasurer's reports.

Jason joined the PHCA board of trustees in late 2011. He became treasurer in July 2012. As treasurer, he handled income from various sources, paid bills, as well as made monthly reports at our meetings. To my knowledge, everyone thought Jason was doing an admirable job as treasurer. At no time did anyone ever think there was a problem with anything regarding finances.

When Jason joined the board in 2011, he was already known among the neighborhood to be a square shooter – namely, calling a spade a spade even if it offended people. Hence he was either liked and admired, or strongly disliked and avoided. Around May or June of 2012 Jason discovered certain financial discrepancies at PHCA and brought them to the attention of the board. [I remember he said he studied finance at Personal Career Development Institute (PCDI) in Canada although he never earned a degree in that subject.] As a result of these discrepancies certain personnel changes were made and Jason became our treasurer by unanimous vote. He served in this capacity well: balancing the checkbook, paying off creditors, correcting errors, collecting money from gym rentals, and so forth. Finally our finances were back on track toward the end of 2012. However, since we had a low bank account balance [not counting an endowment of about \$350,000 which we could not touch], and the person in charge of grant writing was not effective, we needed to raise money. The board created five committees: Education, Medical, Fundraising, Finance, and Beatification & Safety. Jason

became the chairman of the Fundraising, Beatification & Safety, and Financing committees because of his many ideas, his entrepreneurship, and he lived in the neighborhood and wanted it improved. At this time he was already the current treasurer so it was a good fit for him to be head of fundraising and finance. Plus, no one else wanted those responsibilities.

In the meeting minutes from September 2012, it can be seen that the board decided to set aside funds (call it a budget) for the Education, Medical, Fundraising, and the Beatification & Safety committees. Each committee would receive ten percent (10%) of the all money coming into the association with the other 60% going into the general fund account. At this time the board also authorized each committee to be in charge and responsible for their own funds. If at any time a committee needed more funds the head of that committee would address that with the board as a whole.

Jason's Fundraising ideas:

As head of the Fundraising committee, Jason initiated these fundraising projects:

1. Selling Speedway fuel cards to make \$5 on every \$100 fuel card sold.
2. Purchasing, maintaining, stocking a soft drink beverage machine at the Community Center because we had numerous renters at the gym. Sports make people thirsty.
3. Obtaining discounted tickets to several Detroit Pistons basketball games and selling them. Jason also drove kids to the games picking up all travel and parking costs.
4. Purchasing "Beats" headphones in quantity and selling them.
5. Purchasing \$2,500 worth of "Weight Circles" dog food from different sources [Jason has a big dog]. Jason would purchase the Purina weight circles for up to 80% of its value. He would then redeem them through Purina for 100% of their value in Best Buy gift cards. Upon selling these gift cards, PHCA would receive a 20% profit. Jason gave all profit to PHCA in April 2013.
6. An indoor or outdoor Flea Market for \$5 / table was first held on May 4, 2013. It was a big success and very appreciated by residents of the neighborhood. As a result, Flea Markets were held every Friday thereafter.
7. And the largest money maker: Purchasing Visalus energy drink mixes from the manufacturer and selling them at a profit.

More about Visalus:

Jason was authorized to purchase Visalus, In order to obtain the products [Visalus, lots of bottled water and soft drinks, gift cards, fuel cards, basketball tickets] at times Jason had to make withdrawals from the PHCA bank account. I don't know if he wrote checks to himself or

did a funds transfer, but money was needed to make money. As head of the fundraising committee and finance committee Jason was authorized to do this. No one ever raised any objections.

At no time did anyone at PHCA suspect or accuse Jason of theft of funds. We saw the monthly treasurer's reports at our board meetings and saw the income and expenses for fundraising. Usually but not always, income exceeds expenses. We all had high praise and admiration for Jason. Unfortunately Jason did not itemize the amounts of money spent for each project. In hindsight, that would have been a good idea.

Treasurer's reports:

The treasurer's reports at each monthly meeting separated the general fund (used to cover operating expenses), the \$20,000 CD which made only a few dollars each month, and the endowment with the Toledo Community Foundation which we could not touch.

At no time after Jason became the treasurer, did PHCA have more than \$71,000 in the general fund. In addition, the account balance was decreasing due to payroll as discussed in the next section.

The month that "something" hit the fan:

In May 2013 around Memorial Day, President Stephanie Serda made a motion to have Jason removed from the board effective immediately. The reason was not clear. What was unusual about this meeting was that it was open to the public, was held in the gym as there were about sixty [60] people from the Heights community in attendance. Although past board meetings were always open to the public, never before had any meeting been attended by people other than board members and invited guests. I believe Anita invited everyone from the neighborhood because she wanted people to witness Jason's removal from the board. Surprisingly, the motion was defeated by a vote of 4 to 3 with 2 abstentions so Jason remained on the board. Jason then made a motion to have Anita Serda removed from the board effective immediately, due to breaking PHCA bylaws concerning the previous vote on Jason's removal. [Apparently, this should have been done in executive session, but it wasn't.] This motion passed by a vote of 4 to 3, also with 2 abstentions. Anita was visibly upset. Actually she was furious. She accused Jason and myself of awful things, and stormed out of the room. Everyone was dumb-founded.

The sabotage of the Mexican-American Festival:

Fast forward 70 days to mid-August and the Mexican-American Festival which PHCA had been hosting every year for decades and Anita had always been in charge. Admittedly, a large task and to her credit, she ably handled the job. Unbeknownst to all but one other board member [her daughter], she was paying herself \$3,500 each year. Jason found this out among the things he discovered when he became treasurer. You can imagine this was a big surprise to everyone when he brought that up at a meeting. The day before the event, our electrician went to turn on the electrical power at the pole but was informed by Toledo Edison our account was

frozen by the named individual authorized to do this: Anita Serda. Also the company who we rented the tent from, received an email from Anita cancelling the rental contract. In addition, an email was sent to Pepsi cancelling their sponsorship of the event. Source of email: Anita Serda. The Health Department received an anonymous call stating that they need to check out the festival vendors. Which they did and found total compliance. Our two headline performers, Tejano Highway 281 and Michael Ybarra, did not show up for the event because they were contacted by Anita Serda and told the event was cancelled. In spite of the sabotage, the festival was held and was a huge success, thanks mostly to Jason. A profit of \$3,000 was made on the two-day event.

In closing:

Regarding the charges against Jason, let me say this: At no time did PHCA have anywhere near the amount of money that he was found guilty of stealing. If Jason was guilty of something, it would be not keeping accurate records of money-in and money-out for the different fund raising projects he spearheaded.

Stephanie and Jason were authorized to write checks and had permission of the board. In our ten-member board of trustees, only three of us were active in the operations and fundraising of the PHCA. These were Stephanie Serda, Jason Craig and myself. President Stephanie Serda and treasurer Jason Craig were authorized to write checks and had permission of the board to make any fundraising and financial decisions. I chose not to get involved in that.

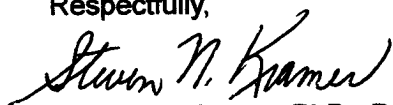
Why didn't I testify at Jason's trial?

I was never contacted by Jason's attorney or anyone connected to this case to testify at trial last year. If I were told to appear I would have been totally supportive of Jason.

In closing, let me say, Jason is among the few men I have met who is a genuinely good person and who goes out of his way to make a difference in people's lives....mostly kids.

I don't know if any of this is helpful.

Respectfully,



Steven N. Kramer, PhD., P.E.
Professor Emeritus – University of Toledo
317 Sycamore Lane
Perrysburg, OH 43551
419-874-6535
Email: Steven.Kramer@UToledo.edu

Respectfully,

Sworn to and subscribed in my presence by Steven N. Kramer this 13 Day of May,
2021

Adam Matthew Moz
Notary

Adam Matthew Moz



ADAM MATTHEW MOZ
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires
May 22, 2021