

To: Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20463

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION

2016 JAN -8 AM 11:39

RECEIVED
FEC MAIL CENTER

2016 JAN -7 AM 8:13

From:

Mark Sherman

Portland, OR 97215

OFFICE OF GENERAL

Attachments: Donor Form page 3, Donation Receipt page 4

Date: December 29, 2015

MUR # 6997

On December 28, 2015 at approximately 5:00 pm I submitted a donation to what I thought was the Bernie Sanders Campaign on the website <http://www.voteberniesanders2016.com/>. This website, which looks like it is an official candidate website because it has Bernie's picture on the left corner looking like it is an official logo.

The site is actually run by Americans Socially United, 848 N. Rainbow Blvd, Suite 3419, Las Vegas, NV 89107. Their email is info@betonbernie.com. Their phone number is (888) 876-5621.

I claim that the site and the organization is violating FEC regulations for the following reasons:

1. The website does not collect information from donors that is required by the FEC. Namely, the occupation of the donor is NOT collected. At the very bottom of the website, in small lettering the organization claims to be a registered PAC.

"BETONBERNIE.COM, PLEDGESANDERS2016.COM, SOCIALLYUNITED.ORG, Americans Socially United is a political action committee registered with U.S. Federal Election Commission - No. C00572537 - All rights reserved. This website was paid for by Americans Socially United (fka Ready for Bernie Sanders 2016 PAC) and is not authorized by any political candidate or party."

As such, it must collect occupation information. When the site did NOT, I became concerned that my donation was collected fraudulently and not done in accordance with FEC regulations. While my donation of \$50.00 means that they don't have to report me individually, they must collect this information in the case I make an aggregate contribution of more than \$200.00. I am including a copy of the entry form that FAILS to ask for the required information. Note that the donation amount is for \$500.00, well above the threshold for collecting employment information. Other than providing sufficient information to process a credit card transaction, required FEC information is not included in the form.

The last page of this complaint shows my contribution receipt, again, without any employment information provided.

Page 1 of 4

initials AMS date 12/29/15

2. The site is misleading in its appearance and appears to be either the official candidates website and/or appears to be approved by the candidate.
3. There is no way to talk to anyone associated with the organization to refund donations that accepted fraudulently. The phone number provided is basically an answering service that only can accept money. It can not refund donations even though the transaction is provided. There is also no response to emails sent to this organization on both the 28th and the 29th of December.

I notified the PAC by email and by phone on the 28th of December at approximately 5:15 pm. I was told that I would be contacted the next day and a refund would be provided. I called again the following morning and filed the same request on the phone. I was told again I would be contacted soon. I was also directed to send another email to the info address shown above. I've not heard back from anyone at the PAC.

For these reasons, I believe this PAC should be shut down and prosecuted to the maximum extent possible. I also feel that contributors should have their donations returned.

Signed and sworn to before me, Christina Larimer

on December 29, 2015

at 2:24 pm

Christina Larimer



I, Mark Sherman, Mark Sherman affirm this complaint. I am providing true and accurate information and realize that doing so must be done "under penalty of perjury".

**BETONBERNIE.COM - MAKE A DONATION ONLINE NOW SUPPORTING
AMERICANS SOCIALLY UNITED**

Order Information

* Required Fields

Invoice Number:

Item	Description	Qty	Taxable	Unit Price	Item Total
BOB16-DONATION	Make A Donation	1	N	500.00 (USD)	500.00 (USD)
	Customer specified amount				

Total: 500.00 (USD)**Payment Information**Card Number: * (enter number without spaces or dashes)Expiration Date: * (mm/yy)**Billing Information**First Name: Last Name: Company: Address: City: State/Province: Zip/Postal Code: Country: Email: Phone: Fax: **Pay Now***MB**12/27/15*

BETONBERNIE.COM Thank you for your donation!

Order Information

Description: Goods or Services

Billing Information

mark sherman

portland, or 97215
usa

Shipping Information

Item	Name	Description	Qty	Taxable	Unit Price	Item Total
BOB16- DONATION	Make A Donation	Customer specified amount	1	N	50.00 (USD)	50.00 (USD)

Total: 50.00 (USD)

Payment Information

Date/Time: 28-Dec-2015 17:10:26 PST
Transaction ID:
Payment Method: Visa
Transaction Type: Purchase
Auth Code:

Merchant Contact Information

Americans Socially United
Washington DC, DC 20004
US

donate@sociallyunited.org

BETONBERNIE.COM sends our thanks helping Americans Socially United support Bernie Sanders become the next President of United States in 2016. Sincerely, BETONBERNIE.COM Americans Socially United Support Team