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FACT CHECK CHUCK #2

“... I think that’s the only way you can run a campaign, not to accept monies from people you are supervising, that’s just the way it has to be.” ([Listen here](#))

Chuck Toombs
KIC/KPOA Candidates’ Forum
September 24, 2016

Why did the Candidate Forum laugh at that statement? Here’s the story:

As he sought reelection to his second term in November 2012, Chuck Toombs and his running mate Pat Gillette accepted a \$990 contribution from the Kensington Police Officers Association. Why \$990? It avoided the need to report the contribution before the election. [Click here to see their FPPC Form 460, page 11.](#)

The police officer’s union had good reason to be happy with Toombs. During his first term on the board — a time when many communities were negotiating pension and health care concessions from employees because of losses in the CalPERS investment portfolio — Toombs voted for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) reaffirming generous, lifetime pension and healthcare benefits, with no employee contribution, for police retirees and their dependents.

Following the police association’s contribution to their 2012 campaign, Toombs and Gillette were elected, solidifying the “Toombs Majority” on the board. Toombs and Gillette were then appointed as a committee of two to negotiate a new MOU with the Kensington Police Officers’ Association. When the new Toombs-Gillette proposal was presented in early 2013, The Kensington Property Owners Association immediately questioned its financial viability and expressed concern with rising pension obligations. They also noted that the new proposal came “in the wake of two years of operating deficits” at the District. ([See the full Property Owners Association letter here.](#))

After considerable community outcry, the KPPCSD board withdrew the overly generous Toombs/Gillette deal and paid its attorneys to renegotiate a new MOU.

Chuck Toombs may know what he has to say to run another political campaign, but should we trust him to run the KPPCSD for four more years?

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