

**From:** [Wendy Gerlach](#)  
**To:** [City Elections](#)  
**Subject:** Complaint no. 2024-09-RG  
**Date:** Thursday, October 31, 2024 2:23:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [Image.png](#)

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Dear Elections/Auditor's Office,

I received a Notice of Complaint (No. 2024-09-RG) today from you. It notes that I made contributions to Rene Gonzalez and states that these were in excess of contribution limits. Specifically, it references three contributions adding up to \$950. This contribution includes a \$250 contribution that I made on 12/20/2022, which related to the City Council race of 2022, not the mayor's race. Please see the email from the Gonzalez for City Council campaign below confirming this. This should not be included in the total for the mayoral campaign. The complaint also references a donation of 12/18/2023, which I did make and was for the mayor's race. This was retained by the campaign and should count toward the total. The complaint also references a contribution of 6/27/2024, which I made in error and which the campaign returned to me.

In summary:

- Contribution of 12/20/2022; \$ 250: for 2022 Commission race; not mayor's race, do not include in total.
- **Contribution of 12/18/2023: \$ 350: total substantive donation to mayor's race.**
- Contribution of 6/27/24: \$350 : refunded 7/16/24

I take the contribution limitations seriously and regret having by mistake initiated the 6/27/24 contribution. I can't remember whether this was because I forgot I had given previously, or if I was confused, thinking that there had been a primary and that there were two election cycles. In any event, I regret that mistake. Fortunately the campaign promptly (in less than 3 weeks) returned the contribution to me. Your Notice says that a contribution returned more than 7 days after receipt still counts in terms of a violation, but I hope you will take into account that I acted in good faith and did not intend to violate the contribution limits, and that overall I actually contributed only \$350 to the mayor campaign. The total of \$700 if you do include both \$350 amounts is only \$121 over the contribution limit of \$579. This is the first time I have made a mistake of this kind. I hope that I may plead for your understanding and belief in my good faith as you process this complaint.

Thank you,  
Wendy Gerlach



