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**From:** CCCRJC Organizer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 28, 2016 11:13 AM  
**To:**  
**Cc:** CommAsst  
**Subject:** Public comment and letter calling for Contra Costa DA Mark Peterson's resignation

Dear Ms. West and Mr. Ung,

It was a pleasure meeting you both at the December FPPC meeting. As I mentioned to you briefly, our coalition is calling for Contra Costa County DA Mark Peterson's immediate resignation. A public letter from our coalition is below. We are submitting this statement as public comment on the FPPC January agenda item addressing penalty for Mr. Peterson's actions. We believe that the Commission should consider Mr. Peterson's refusal to resign as refusal to accept full responsibility for his actions.

I invite you to consider also [the East Bay Times' editorial calling for Mr. Peterson's resignation](#) and [this article](#) regarding community calls for the same. Please contact me if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Regards,

Jeff Landau  
CCCRJC Organizer

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The Contra Costa Coalition for Racial Justice & the Coalition to Restore Public Trust call for the immediate resignation of District Attorney Mark Peterson.

Our members were shocked and extremely disappointed to learn of the misuse of campaign contributions by DA Mark Peterson. As the California Fair Political Practices Commission points out, when an official makes personal use of campaign funds, it erodes public trust in the political process. DA Peterson obviously cannot and will not hold himself accountable under the law. He has lost our community's trust, and we insist that he resign immediately.

According to the charges by the State's Fair Political Practices Commission, over a 5-year period, Mr. Peterson used more than \$66,000 of campaign contribution money for his personal expenses. For 5 years, Peterson acted as his own Treasurer. During that time he filed at least 4 falsified FPPC reports which did not disclose his personal use of the funds.

The misuse of money donated to his campaign included hotels, meals, movie tickets, gasoline, clothing and more. He also withdrew cash from the campaign account and transferred money from the campaign account to his personal account. According to the FPPC, Peterson admits that he started misusing his campaign contributions in 2011 shortly after he was elected. His misappropriation of funds continued until 2015 when he learned that his campaign account had been selected for audit.

DA Peterson has been a lawyer for more than 30 years. He was admitted to practice law in 1983. As a lawyer,

officer of the Court and elected official, he knows the meaning of receiving and holding money "in trust." Every time that he used the campaign account for his own personal benefit, he knew that he was violating the fundamental values of the law and his ethical duties as an attorney. He knew that he was violating the trust of everyone who donated money for him to become our DA.

Our community deserves to have a District Attorney who acts ethically and upholds the law. Mark Peterson has shown that he cannot be trusted to do either. For these reasons, we call for his immediate resignation.