

December 9, 2019

CC:PA:LPD:PR (REG-102508-16)
Room 5203
Internal Revenue Service
P.O. Box 7604
Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044

Re: RIN 1545-BN28, Guidance Under Section 6033 Regarding the Reporting Requirements of Exempt Organizations (REG-102508-16)

Freedom Foundation comment

Deputy Commissioner Wielobob,

The Freedom Foundation is a nonprofit organization organized under 26 USC § 501(c)(3). Founded in 1991 in Olympia, Wash., the organization's mission is to promote individual liberty, free enterprise and limited, accountable government. In recent years, the Foundation has opened additional offices in Oregon, California, and Ohio.

Although the Foundation would not be directly affected by the proposed regulation, it strongly supports the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) proposal to modify 26 CFR § 1.6033-2(a)(2)(ii) to relieve organizations exempt from tax under 26 USC § 501(a), other than those designated by 26 USC § 501(c)(3) or 26 USC § 527, from the obligation to disclose the names and addresses of their contributors to the IRS on annual 990 tax returns.

Even though 26 USC § 6104(b) generally forbids the IRS from publicly disclosing contributor names and addresses, the systematic collection of such information by the government increases the likelihood of unauthorized or accidental disclosure.

The consequences of such disclosure can be severe for the organizations and persons affected, as the Freedom Foundation's experience confirms, and unnecessarily harm individuals' First Amendment right to freely associate with and support organizations they believe in.

As a tax-exempt organization under 26 USC § 501(c)(3), the Freedom Foundation does and will continue to disclose certain donor information to the IRS. Though the Foundation has not, to its knowledge, been the victim of unauthorized disclosures by the IRS, the publicly available information from the Foundation's annual 990 tax returns has already been used by those opposed to the Foundation's goals and mission to harass and defame members of its board of directors.

In recent years, officers of the Foundation's board of directors have been personally and professionally targeted and harassed by the so-called Northwest Accountability Project (NAP) because of their association with the Foundation.¹

Funded by labor unions upset about the Freedom Foundation's work to help public employees understand and exercise their constitutional right to refrain from joining a union, NAP's ugly tactics have spanned a wide spectrum.²

Members of the board have had letters mailed to their neighbors falsely accusing them of opposing the environment, women, the LGBTQ community, etc., even though these issues generally fall outside the Foundation's areas of focus.

Similarly, NAP has arranged pickets outside businesses owned by some board members, created special websites denouncing firms owned by members of the board, and otherwise sought to damage their reputation and income.³

In one case in which NAP was able to identify a Freedom Foundation donor who didn't serve on the board, the Murdoch Charitable Trust, it mounted a years-long intimidation and PR campaign against the Trust. The effort eventually targeted Jeffrey Grub, a Murdoch trustee who was also a vice president for Wells Fargo, personally.

In an ominously threatening 2016 letter to Wells Fargo CEO John Stumpf, Lee Saunders, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) — one of the largest labor unions and special interest groups in the country — expressed his “displeasure” at Mr. Grub's support for the Freedom Foundation via his role at the Murdoch Trust. Saunders claimed that Mr. Grub, via Murdoch, had “[exposed] Wells Fargo to unnecessary reputational and financial risk” and urged Mr. Stumpf to “do all in your power to distance Wells Fargo from these kinds of organizations.”

The Foundation has no doubt that similar, politically and financially motivated personal and professional targeting would occur were its list of donors publicly disclosed. At that point, it matters little whether the disclosure was legal or authorized. No American deserves to be the subject of such vile, unfounded attacks and accusations simply because they wish to use their own money to support organizations they agree with, whether civic, charitable or otherwise.

Limiting the unnecessary government collection and storage of records of charitable giving is one way to protect Americans' right to freely donate to causes and charities of their choice without fear of harassment from special interest groups or political opponents.

Accordingly, the Foundation is pleased to see the IRS consider narrowing the requirement to

¹ Ironically, NAP is tax-exempt under 26 USC § 501(c)(4), meaning that the organization behind these vile attacks would benefit from the present rulemaking, whereas the Freedom Foundation, as a 501(c)(3), would not.

² See the attached documents for examples of the type of harassment Foundation board members and supporters have endured from NAP.

³ While the Foundation does not contend that members of a 501(c)(3) organization's board of directors should no longer be disclosed on 990 tax returns, its experience shows what would happen should the list of its financial contributors become public.

report contributors names and addresses to only 501(c)(3) and 527 organizations and urges the IRS to retain this proposal in its final rule.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maxford Nelsen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Maxford Nelsen
Director of Labor Policy
Freedom Foundation
P.O. Box 552, Olympia, WA 98507
(360) 956-3482
MNelsen@FreedomFoundation.com

August 15, 2018

Dear Michael Appleby,

This is an important letter **about one of your neighbors, Michael Appleby**, who is a director for an extremist anti-worker group based in Olympia.

Here in the Northwest, we are leading the nation in protecting the environment, honoring the rights of women and supporting working families. The rest of our nation looks to Washington as a beacon of economic growth and social justice. That's why it's **shocking to learn that your neighbor, Michael Appleby, director at the Freedom Foundation, is trying to undermine all of our hard work.**

The Freedom Foundation poses as a non-partisan think tank, but in reality, they are members of a national network of ultra-conservative millionaires and billionaires including the Koch brothers. **They support policies that strip environmental laws and eliminate taxes on the wealthy...**anything in the way of their benefactors' profit margins. They also work closely with white supremacist organizations and groups that seek to undermine LGBTQ rights.

If our neighbor was perpetrating this harm on fellow citizens, we would be alarmed. Are you? **Like wolves in sheep's clothing**, the Freedom Foundation looks friendly enough on the outside, but a clear look at their actions reveals a much darker mission:

Michael Appleby and the Freedom Foundation trying to attack working families:

The Freedom Foundation has repeatedly opposed increases in the minimum wage, paid sick leave for all and fair scheduling. They have attacked striking educators and one staffer even said that a \$15 minimum wage is "an idea so stupid only liberals can believe it."

Michael Appleby and the Freedom Foundation against the environment:

The Freedom Foundation filed a lawsuit to block policies that would combat climate change and protect the environment.

Michael Appleby and the Freedom Foundation against women's rights:

The Freedom Foundation's staff consistently attacks Planned Parenthood, an organization that is dedicated to providing women's health services, calling them a "radical social organization"

Michael Appleby and the Freedom Foundation attacking LGBTQ rights:

They share a funder with anti-LGBTQ hate groups and a group that practiced gay conversion therapy.

Michael Appleby and the Freedom Foundation tolerating bigoted staff:

A key Freedom Foundation staffer regularly posted racist and misogynistic content including jokes about battered women's shelters and called for the deportation of all Muslims. Another staffer compared the emotions of putting down a family dog to what slave owners felt when slaves died, saying: "We all know there were good and bad slave owners, just like there are good and bad dog owners."

Perhaps you know **Michael Appleby**, or maybe you will meet him in the future. Either way, we wanted you to know that he is working very hard with the Freedom Foundation, leading an assault on Washington's working families, the environment and equal rights. Next time you see him, **we hope you'll ask him why.**

Sincerely,

The concerned staff of **The Northwest Accountability Project**

The Northwest Accountability Project is a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization dedicated to educating the public on the issues that enhance the well-being of middle-class families and workers while shining a light on extremism and the moneyed special interests that attempt to bring an agenda of hate and division to Washington and Oregon.

Find out how you can help at nwaccountabilityproject.com

DO YOU REALIZE WHO LIVES DOWN THE STREET?

FACTS FOR NEIGHBORS OF THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION

Undermining the Middle Class

The Freedom Foundation has repeatedly opposed increases in the minimum wage. (1)

Against Environmental Protections

The Freedom Foundation has argued against paid sick days. (2)

Against Women's Rights

The Freedom Foundation filed a lawsuit to block policies that would combat climate change and protect our environment. (3)

Against LGBTQ Community

The Freedom Foundation's staff consistently attacks Planned Parenthood, calling them a "radical social organization" (4)

Against Immigrant Rights

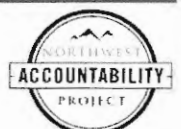
Freedom Foundation staff publicly opposed the Supreme Court ruling that legalized same-sex marriage. (5)

Has Ties with White Supremacists

The Freedom Foundation is allied with the American Legislative Exchange Council, who have promoted anti-immigrant and voter suppression bills across the nation. (6,7)

The Freedom Foundation is an affiliate of the State Policy Network, a national network of organizations with ties to anti-immigrant and white supremacist groups. (8)

(1) "Rally for \$15 Minimum Wage to Be Held at Yakima McDonald's" Yakima Herald-Republic, April 15, 2015 (2) "Nearly 9,000 Hospitalized for Flu in Ohio: Many Didn't Have Paid Sick Days" Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 30, 2015 (3) "Governor Overstepped Bounds With Climate-Change Executive Order, Says Lawsuit" Washington State Wire, 7/23/2010 (4) "Freedom Foundation Again Assists An Employee Whose Civil Rights Were Violated By SEIU 775," July 31, 2015 (5) Freedom Daily Podcast, June 29, 2015 (6) http://alecexposed.org/w/images/2/2d/7K5-No_Sanctuary_Ci_ties_for_Illegal_Immigrants_Act_Exposed.pdf (7) http://www.prwatch.org/files/spn_national_report_final.pdf Center for Media and Democracy, accessed May 26, 2015 (8) Conservative Transparency, Freedom Foundation, accessed 8/6/2018 and GuideStar, Sarah Scaife Foundation, 2013 Form 990 Received from the IRS, accessed 8/6/2018; Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed 8/6/2018



THE DARK SECRET OF CONNER HOMES

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY



Here in the Northwest, we are leading the nation in protecting the environment, honoring the rights of women, supporting working families and resisting Trump's agenda of hate and division.

These are the values of Washingtonians and Oregonians and the values that we expect from our business community.

That's why it's shocking to learn that Conner Homes, builder of the homes you are visiting, is trying to undermine all of our hard work.

How is it happening? Charlie Conner, the sole owner and president of Conner Homes, was a long-term board member of the Freedom Foundation, a right wing extremist group funded by the Koch Brothers. Charlie is not merely a supporter of the Freedom Foundation, his family name sits proudly on the front door of the Freedom Foundation's office, with the ironic moniker: "Conner Freedom Center."

DOES THIS SOUND LIKE SOMEONE YOU'D BUY A HOUSE FROM?

CONNER HOMES AND THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION:

Attacking Working Families:

The Freedom Foundation has repeatedly opposed increases in the minimum wage, and paid sick leave. Calling a \$15 minimum wage "an idea so stupid only liberals can believe it."

Attacking the Environment:

The Freedom Foundation filed a lawsuit to block policies that would combat climate change and protect the environment.

Attacking the LGBTQ Community & Women:

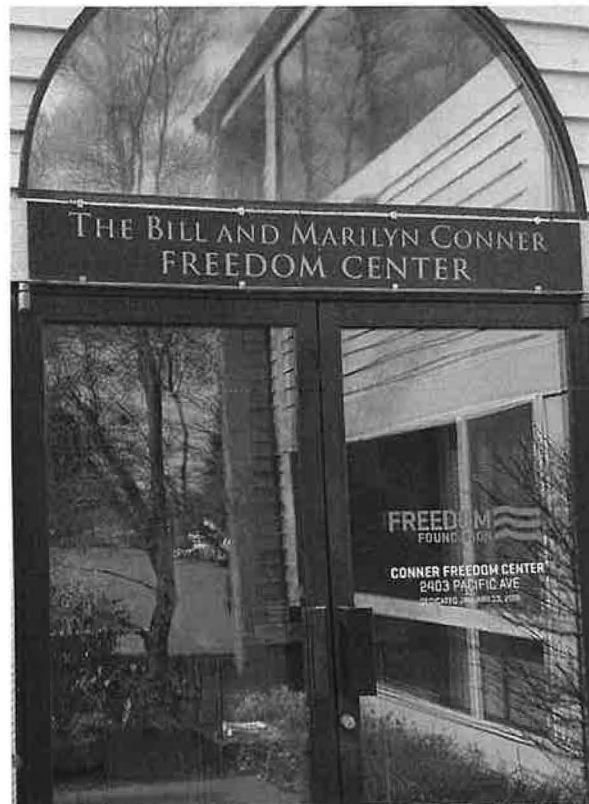
They share funding with anti-LGBTQ hate groups and a group that practiced gay conversion therapy. That same funder has given millions to so-called Crisis Pregnancy Centers, fake health clinics that deceive women about abortion services.

Aligning with groups that fuel White Supremacy:

The Freedom Foundation belongs to a national network which shares connections with groups that attack the LGBTQ community, communities of color, women's rights and fuel white supremacy in our country.

DO YOU SHARE HIS VALUES?

CHARLIE CONNER OF CONNER HOMES



THE CONNER FREEDOM CENTER

PROTECT YOUR NEIGHBORS

The Freedom Foundation poses as a non-partisan think tank, but in reality, they are members of a national network of ultra-conservative millionaires and billionaires including the Koch brothers. They support policies that gut workplace safety, strip environmental laws, and eliminate taxes on the wealthy....anything in the way of their benefactors' profit margins. They also work closely with white supremacist organizations and groups that seek to undermine LGBTQ rights.

It's time for local wealthy businessmen like Charlie Conner to stop taking our money while guiding right-wing extremist organizations.

Unsuspecting home shoppers need to know the true damage Charlie Conner and The Freedom Foundation are doing to our community. It's time to #cleanupconnerhomes!

This message produced by The Northwest Accountability Project. Learn how you can help at nwaccountabilityproject.com

Dear Ms. Cariker

You are receiving this letter because you are a tenant at Cedar Professional Center which is owned and operated by Michael Appleby, a new board member of the controversial *Freedom Foundation*.

The *Freedom Foundation* is heavily funded by out-of-state billionaires, part of a broad network of "dark money" groups like the Donor's Trust which have deep ties to the Koch Brothers and big corporate interests. These groups are working to bring an extreme agenda to Washington and the entire Northwest.

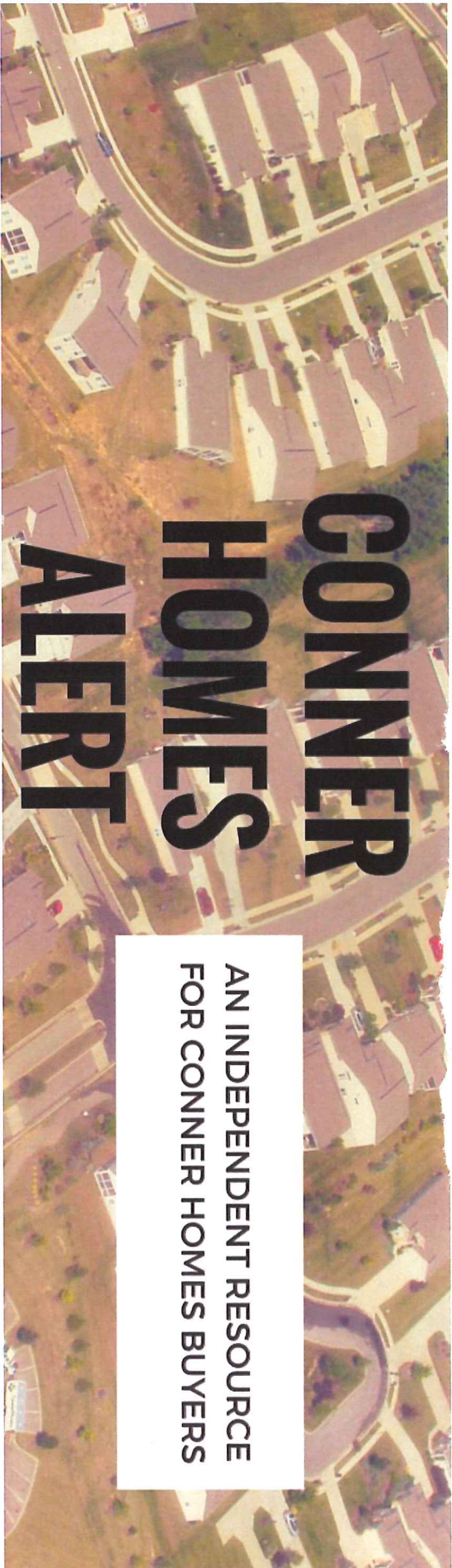
- The *Freedom Foundation* has sourced three of its lawyers from the anti-LGBT hate group, the **Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF)**. The ADF pushes extreme anti-LGBT legislation in states throughout the country including North Carolina's notorious "bathroom bill." Their founder, James Dobson once suggested that AIDS was one way God punishes the LGBT community. The Southern Poverty Law Center recently designated ADF as a "hate group."
- The *Freedom Foundation* works with **ALEC and the State Policy Network** to advance corporate, cookie cutter policies. ALEC is a corporate "bill mill" that secretively brings together corporate interests and state policymakers to weaken environmental regulations, voter protections and laws that protect workers. They were behind the "Stand your ground" laws in Florida that allowed George Zimmerman to be acquitted for the murder of Trayvon Martin.
- The *Freedom Foundation* filed a lawsuit in Washington that would **block policies to combat climate change** and protect the environment.
- The *Freedom Foundation* shares financial ties with groups that have a **history of anti-LGBT rhetoric and action**, including support for gay conversion therapy.

As a small business owner in the Pacific Northwest, we know that you are invested in the community's diversity and ability to thrive. *The Freedom Foundation* has a long history of not respecting those values and Michael Appleby, your landlord, as a *Freedom Foundation* board member, now represents this same anti-worker, anti-LGBT and climate change denying agenda.

We would love to talk with you further about Michael Appleby and the Freedom Foundation. Please feel free to contact us at info@nwaccountabilityproject.com

Sincerely,

Peter Starzynski
Executive Director
Northwest Accountability Project



CONNER HOMES ALERT

AN INDEPENDENT RESOURCE
FOR CONNER HOMES BUYERS

Conner Homes has been involved in many home quality lawsuits and has been repeatedly sued for “defects and deficiencies.” In addition, the Conners have ties to extreme, divisive politics in Washington and Oregon.



LAWSUITS



EXTREME
POLITICS

ASK WHY BEFORE YOU BUY - Do you have questions? Email us at info@connerhomesalert.com

Conner Homes Alert is an independent resource for existing and future customers of Conner Homes as well as the general public. We are not affiliated with Conner Homes. In the coming months, we will be adding more information about Conner Homes to our site. Please visit ConnerHomesAlert.com for more information.

ConnerHomesAlert.com

Conner Homes and its Predecessor company, Chateau Development have been repeatedly Sued for “defects and deficiencies.”

Owners experienced problems including mildew, water intrusion, and the use of “improper materials.”

Homeowners alleged Conner Homes had failed to address the problem and as a result of the damage “some or all of the units may be uninhabitable.”

(Source: Kirkland Creek v Chateau Development)

King County Jury ordered Conner Homes pay homeowners over \$3 million for defects including:

Water intrusion due to deficiencies

Moisture and mildew due to deficiencies

Multiple flooding incidents due to deficiencies

(Source: The Arbors in Bellevue v Conner Homes)

Conner Homes and the Divisive Freedom Foundation

Conner Home’s owner sits on the board of the Freedom Foundation - a divisive, heavily-funded effort to bring an extreme agenda to the Northwest.

- **Complaints have been filed** against the Freedom Foundation with State and Federal authorities.
- The Freedom Foundation filed a lawsuit that would **block policies to combat climate change** and protect the environment.
- The Freedom Foundation shares financial ties with groups that have a **history of anti-LGBT rhetoric** and action, including support for gay conversion therapy.
- The Freedom Foundation has regularly **attacked women’s right to choose** and has consistently attacked Planned Parenthood. The Freedom Foundation’s Oregon Coordinator has called Planned Parenthood, “a baby-killing, body-part brokering, government money wasting machine.”

Some current and potential buyers of Conner Homes may find the connections between the company and the increasingly controversial and polarizing Freedom Foundation disturbing and worthy of a second look.

February 9, 2016

Lee Saunders
President

Laura Reyes
Secretary-Treasurer

Vice Presidents

Ken Allen
Portland, OR

Richard L. Caponi
Pittsburgh, PA

Ken Deitz, RN
San Dimas, CA

Greg Devereux
Olympia, WA

Danny Donohue
Albany, NY

David R. Fillman
Harrisburg, PA

Kathleen Garrison
Latham, NY

Mattie Harrell
Franklinville, NJ

Johanna Puno Hester
San Diego, CA

Danny J. Homan
Des Moines, IA

Melvin Hughes Sr.
Houston, TX

Salvatore Luciano
New Britain, CT

John A. Lyall
Worthington, OH

Kathryn Lybarger
Oakland, CA

Roberta Lynch
Chicago, IL

Christopher Mabe
Westerville, OH

Glenard S. Middleton Sr.
Baltimore, MD

Ralph Miller
Los Angeles, CA

Gary Mitchell
Madison, WI

Victoria E. Mitchell
New York, NY

Douglas Moore Jr.
San Diego, CA

Frank Moroney
Boston, MA

Michael Newman
Chicago, IL

Henry Nicholas
Philadelphia, PA

Randy Perreira
Honolulu, HI

Steven Quick Sr.
Indianapolis, IN

Lillian Roberts
New York, NY

Eddie Rodriguez
New York, NY

Lawrence A. Roehrig
Lansing, MI

Joseph P. Rugola
Columbus, OH

Eliot Seide
South St. Paul, MN

Mary E. Sullivan
Albany, NY

Braulio Torres
San Juan, PR

Jeanette D. Wynn
Tallahassee, FL

John Stumpf, Chairman and CEO
Wells Fargo Bank
420 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Mr. Stumpf:

As President of the 1.6 million member American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), I know that our union, at headquarters in D.C. and through our state affiliates, has had long-standing business relationships with Wells Fargo as have many AFSCME members across the country. In fact, many union members rely upon the deposit and loan services of your bank to help them live the American dream that we have all fought so hard through collective action to build for ourselves and for all working families.

I am writing to express my concern and displeasure that one of your top executives has decided to attack the very foundations of the system of employment law that has allowed AFSCME to help the American middle class grow and prosper over decades past. Wells Fargo's Executive Vice President Jeffrey Grubb is one of only three Trustees at the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. Murdock has recently been identified as the largest public donor to the Freedom Foundation, a radical organization that has dedicated itself to undermining the gains of workers across the country through dishonest campaigns against our rights.

The Freedom Foundation is in their own words, engaged in a highly focused campaign to destroy labor unions. In the past, the organization has been behind efforts to pass so-called "Right to Work" laws in Washington State and Oregon. Currently, they are engaged in direct action designed to undermine union members' collective power to negotiate contracts that help sustain middle class families. That they attack workers under the guise of being a pro-worker organization makes their actions even more morally reprehensible.

Labor unions are not the only targets of Mr. Grubb's foundation. The Murdock Trust also provides resources to a number of extremist organizations that work directly to undermine the rights and freedoms of the LGBT community such as the Alliance Defending Freedom, whose co-founder James Dobson has suggested that AIDS is one way that God punishes the LGBT community for immorality.

The Wells Fargo Team Member Handbook makes clear to all employees, "...your professional and personal conduct can positively or negatively affect Wells Fargo's reputation." Unfortunately, Mr. Grubb's decision to align himself with a

funder of these extreme groups exposes Wells Fargo to unnecessary reputational and financial risk and undermines the values I believe we share.

I would hope that you will do all in your power to distance Wells Fargo from these kinds of organizations. I ask that you keep me informed of the steps you plan to take in this matter.

Sincerely,


LEE SAUNDERS
President

LS/SJ:sh



CHARLIE CONNER CHECK IN

October 10, 2018

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When we last checked in on Freedom Foundation director Charlie Conner, [he was celebrating](#) with his staff in front of their office. Why the party? The Supreme Court had just voted to undermine collective bargaining that ensures safe working conditions and a living wage for American workers. This stripping back of worker protections obviously brought great joy to Charlie Conner and his anti-worker Freedom Foundation.

The Freedom Foundation is a right-wing extremist group funded by out-of-state billionaires like the Kochs, the Waltons and Wisconsin's Bradley Foundation. They are trying to "defund and defang" unions, at the behest of their corporate donors.

Charlie Conner, [owner of Conner Homes](#), is a multi-millionaire residential developer in King County, whose family support for the Foundation dates back decades. Charlie's parents donated enough money to the Foundation that they named their Olympia headquarters, the Freedom Foundation as it tries to [attack Washington's working families](#), files lawsuits to block environmental protections, and [hires bigoted staff](#).

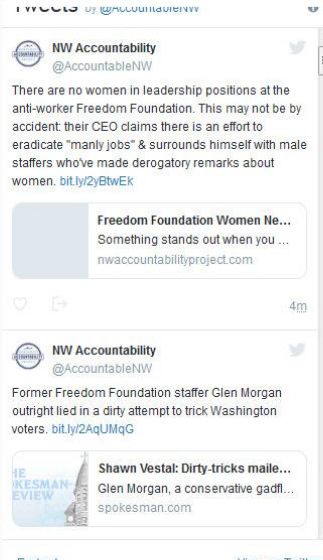

Most recently, Charlie was spotted at the Freedom Foundation's fundraiser at the Hilton in Bellevue, WA. There to present their keynote address was outspoken [bigot and racist Dinesh D'Souza](#). Hundreds of concerned citizens [emailed the Hilton](#) manager to express their shock that D'Souza would be presenting. Hundreds more showed up in person to [picket the event](#) and let Foundation supporters know that their brand of hatred and fear-mongering was not welcome in this community.

When a wealthy business owner like Charlie Conner uses his influence to negatively affect the citizens around him, we take notice and act. We've [organized actions](#) this year at Conner Homes' open houses and grand openings. We use signs, leaflets, and conversation to educate the community about Charlie's misguided values.

The Northwest Accountability Project is now in the middle of a massive public records request with all the cities and counties Conner Homes has built in or plans to build in. We are scouring through years of Conner's permits and emails. The shadowy Freedom Foundation operates with double-talk and deception, is it possible that Conner Homes, owned by a Foundation director, may act in the same way? When we find out, we'll owe it to the community to educate them on everything we discover. Stay tuned.

In the meantime, You can help! [Sign our petition telling Charlie Conner that his values and actions are hurting our community, and NOT acceptable to our Northwest families.](#)

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SIGN UP TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT.

Welcome back, Max!
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Project

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WILL YOUR NEXT HOME PURCHASE SUPPORT THE EXTREMIST RIGHT-WING MOVEMENT IN THE NORTHWEST? A SHOCKING LOOK AT THE DARK SIDE OF CONNER HOMES

May 24, 2018

Retweet Like 15K

Here in the Northwest, we are leading the nation in protecting the environment, honoring the rights of women, and supporting working families. These are the values of Washingtonians and Oregonians and the values that we expect from our business community. That's why it's shocking to learn that Conner Homes, a residential housing developer based in Bellevue, WA is trying to undermine all of our hard work.

How is it happening? Charlie Conner, the sole owner and president of Conner Homes, was a long-term board member of the Freedom Foundation, a right-wing extremist group funded by the Koch brothers. Charlie is not merely a supporter of the Freedom Foundation, his family name sits proudly on the front door of the Freedom Foundation's office, with the ironic moniker: "Conner Freedom Center."



The "Conner Freedom Center," headquarters of the Freedom Foundation in Olympia, WA

The Freedom Foundation poses as a non-partisan think tank, but in reality, they are members of a national network of ultra-conservative millionaires and billionaires including the Koch brothers. They support policies that gut workplace safety, strip environmental laws, and eliminate taxes on the wealthy...anything in the way of their benefactors' profit margins. They also work closely with white supremacist organizations and groups that seek to undermine LGBTQ rights.

Does this sound like someone you would want to buy a house from? Like wolves in sheep's clothing, both the Freedom Foundation and Conner Homes look friendly enough on the outside. Conner Homes claims their houses make "EarthSense" and that their company is giving back to the community, but the dark truth can be seen in how Charlie's friends at the Freedom Foundation spend their time.

CHARLIE CONNER AND THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION TRYING TO ATTACK WORKING FAMILIES

The Freedom Foundation has repeatedly [opposed increases in the minimum wage](#), paid sick leave for all, and fair scheduling. They have attacked striking educators, and one staffer even said that a \$15

CHARLIE CONNER AND THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION AGAINST THE ENVIRONMENT

The Freedom Foundation [filed a lawsuit](#) to block policies that would combat climate change and protect the environment.

CHARLIE CONNER AND THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION AGAINST WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The Freedom Foundation's staff consistently attacks Planned Parenthood, an organization that is dedicated to providing women's health services, calling them a "radical social organization"

CHARLIE CONNER AND THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION ATTACKING LGBTQ RIGHTS

The Freedom Foundation shares a funder with anti-LGBTQ hate groups and a group that practiced gay conversion therapy. Their staff argued against the Supreme Court decision to legalize marriage equality.

CHARLIE CONNER AND THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION TOLERATING BIGOTED STAFF

A key Freedom Foundation staffer [regularly posted](#) racist and misogynistic content, including jokes about battered women's shelters, [the emotions](#) of putting down a family dog to what slave owners felt when slaves died, saying: "We all know there were good and bad slave owners, just like there are good and bad dog owners."

While the Freedom Foundation attempts their assault across Washington and Oregon on working families, the environment, and equal rights, Conner Homes has [three luxury developments launching soon](#) in Kirkland, Bothell, and West Seattle. Over the course of the next few months, the Northwest Accountability Project will work to educate home-buyers, real estate agents, and community organizations. We believe they have a right to know who is behind Conner Homes and where their money may go.

It's time for wealthy local businessmen like Charlie Conner to stop taking our money while guiding right-wing extremist organizations. Unsuspecting home shoppers need to know the true damage Charlie Conner and the Freedom Foundation are doing to our community. It's time to #cleanupconnerhomes!

CONNECT



SIGN UP TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT.

Welcome back, Max!
Not sure? Click here.

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Northwest Accountability
Project

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Conner Homes and the divisive Freedom Foundation

Posted on May 4, 2016 by [connerhomesalert](#)

We believe it is important for those who have purchased or are considering purchasing a Conner Homes home to understand the connections between the company and the Freedom Foundation a divisive, heavily-funded effort to bring an extreme agenda to the Northwest.



What Conner Homes customers deserve to know:

- Both Bill and Charlie Conner are members of the Board of Directors of the divisive Freedom Foundation.
- Under the Conner's leadership, the Freedom Foundation has become a highly polarizing force in Washington and Oregon politics.
- Complaints have been filed against the Freedom Foundation with State and Federal authorities. Recently, the Freedom Foundation was the target of a complaint to the Internal Revenue Service, which argued that the Freedom Foundation is engaged in political activity and should have its nonprofit, 501c3 tax status revoked.
- The Freedom Foundation has regularly attacked women's right to choose and has consistently attacked Planned Parenthood. The Freedom Foundation's Oregon Coordinator has called Planned Parenthood, "a baby-killing, body-part brokering, government money wasting machine."
- The Freedom Foundation shares financial ties with groups that have a history of anti-LGBT rhetoric and action, including support for gay conversion therapy. The Foundation itself has criticized pro-same-sex marriage court decisions as a "threat to personal freedom." The Freedom Foundation has called legislation legalizing same-sex marriage as a "distraction" and a "cynical ploy" by Gov. Gregoire.
- The Freedom Foundation has criticized schools for a program it believes "promotes homosexuality," has criticized WEA funding of LGBT advocacy, and opposed a collective bargaining agreement that prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation.
- The Freedom Foundation filed a lawsuit to block policies that would combat climate change and protect the environment. The Foundation called Washington's greenhouse gas regulations "a catastrophe," and questioned whether the concept of climate change was settled science.

Some current and potential buyers of Conner Homes may find the connections between the company and the increasingly controversial and polarizing Freedom Foundation disturbing and worthy of a second look.

Do you have questions? Email us at info@connerhomesalert.com

Bookmark the [permalink](#).

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META

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← Conner Homes has been repeatedly sued for "defects and deficiencies" by Homeowners at Conner-developed Communities



Conner Homes Alert, 2016



info@connerhomesalert.com

Terra Staffing Alert

An Independent Resource for Terra Staffing Clients

DISCRIMINATION FAILURE TO PAY TAXES WORKPLACE SAFETY SUING CLIENTS TIES TO EXTREME POLITICS

April 22, 2016

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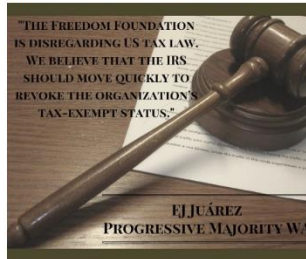
SEARCH

Terra Staffing and the divisive Freedom Foundation

We believe it is important for clients of Terra Staffing and the general public about the connections between Terra Staffing and the Freedom Foundation a divisive, heavily-funded effort to bring an extreme agenda to the Northwest.

What Terra Staffing clients deserve to know:

- Terra Staffing Chair Steve Neighbors is also the chair of the Board of the divisive Freedom Foundation.
- Under Neighbors, the Freedom Foundation has become a highly polarizing force in Washington and Oregon politics.
- Complaints have been filed against the Freedom Foundation with State and Federal authorities. Recently, the Freedom Foundation was the target of a complaint to the Internal Revenue Service, which argued that the Freedom Foundation is engaged in political activity and should have its nonprofit, 501c3 tax status revoked.
- Neighbors' Freedom Foundation has regularly attacked women's right to choose and has consistently attacked Planned Parenthood. The Freedom Foundation's Oregon Coordinator has called Planned Parenthood, "a baby-killing, body-part brokering, government money wasting machine."
- The Freedom Foundation shares financial ties with groups that have a history of anti-LGBT rhetoric and action, including support for gay conversion therapy. The Foundation itself has criticized pro-same-sex marriage court decisions as a "threat to personal freedom."
- Neighbors' Freedom Foundation **filed a lawsuit** to block policies that would combat climate change and protect the environment.



One reason that clients hire staffing firms is to minimize legal and regulatory risk involved with recruitment and hiring.

But, are the connections between Terra Staffing and the increasingly controversial and polarizing Freedom Foundation creating additional, unnecessary risks for clients?

Email us with questions at info@terrastaffingalert.com

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WELLS FARGO EXEC VP FACING PUBLIC PRESSURE ON MURDOCK TRUST GRANTEES

January 27, 2016

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NEWS ADVISORY FOR JANUARY 27 and 28, 2016

WHAT: Customers and supporters are handing out special comment cards to Wells Fargo customers and employees in Seattle (Weds) and Portland (Thurs). They are calling on Jeffery Grubb, a Wells Fargo top executive, to stop allowing The Murdock Charitable Trust to fund anti-LGBT, anti-reproductive rights and other extremist organizations.

WHO: Spokespeople from NARAL Pro-Choice Washington, Pride At Work, and Wells Fargo customers will be available for comment in Seattle. Spokespeople from Basic Rights Oregon, NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon, Portland Jobs With Justice, and Wells Fargo customers will be available for comment in Portland.

WEDNESDAY, 1/27 NOON: [Wells Fargo Center, 999 3rd Avenue \(3rd & Marion\), Seattle, WA](#)

THURSDAY, 1/28 NOON: [Wells Fargo Center, 1300 SW 5th Ave, Portland, OR](#)

BACKGROUND:

Wells Fargo's heart-touching advertisement featuring lesbian parents adopting a deaf child drew [criticism from hate groups](#) last year. The bank stood its ground, [saying](#) the heart-touching commercial "reflects our company's values."

Unfortunately, Wells Fargo executive Jeffery Grubb is undermining the bank's values in his role at The Murdock Charitable Trust, a major funder of anti-LGBT, anti-labor, anti-women's health organizations.

A Wells Fargo Executive Vice President by day, Jeffery Grubb is one of just three trustees making a second paycheck (\$80,000 in 2013 according to IRS records) from the billion-dollar Murdock Charitable Trust, one of Washington State's largest charitable foundations.

Under Grubb's direction, the Murdock Trust sends millions to hateful, anti-LGBT, anti-worker and anti-woman organizations including:

- **Anti-LGBT Rights:** \$212,000 to Portland Fellowship, an ex-gay Christian ministry in Oregon that has practiced gay conversion therapy.
- **Anti-Paid Sick Leave:** \$765,000 to the Freedom Foundation, an organization that seeks to eliminate paid sick leave, cut public school funding and opposes minimum wage increases.
- **Anti-Women's Health:** \$1547,200 to several so-called crisis pregnancy centers that pose as legitimate medical or counseling clinics, but exist to prevent women from accessing abortion services.

Wednesday and Thursday's events are organized by the Northwest Accountability Project. The Northwest Accountability Project is a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization dedicated to educating the public on the issues that enhance the well-being of middle-class families and workers while shining a light on extremism and the moneyed special interests that attempt to bring an agenda of hate and division to Washington and Oregon. More info at www.nwaccountabilityproject.org

Contact: Heather Weiner
hweiner@nwaccountabilityproject.org

[206/218-7194](tel:2062187194)

CONNECT

Northwest Accountability Project

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Northwest Accountability Project

Yesterday at 9:14am

Congratulations Freedom Foundation as winner of the "Islamophobia & Transphobia in One Sentence" award! We present this award to Senior Legal Fellow Jim Johnson. The quote: "I would send the (trans) individual who chooses this to, say, downtown Ben and try to walk into the men's room and see how that works out for them."

PROFILES IN BIGOTRY!
WINNER OF THE "ISLAMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA IN ONE SENTENCE" AWARD
FREEDOM FOUNDATION

Tweets

NW Accountability @AccountableNW

17m

EXAMPLE: Murdock \$ to anti-LGBT groups: \$6M to Young Life, which bans gay leaders in Snohomish heraldnet.com/article/201506...

Show Summary

NW Accountability @AccountableNW

18h

Folks from @prideatwork, @ProChoiceWA today talking to @WellsFargo customers nwaccountabilityproject.com/?p=98 pic.twitter.com/H0i944Ckx7

Jeffery Grubb: Wells Fargo Executive & Right Wing Mega Donor

Expand

NW Accountability @AccountableNW

18h

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