



Venice Neighborhood Council

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February 29, 2012

Honorable Bill Rosendahl
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Resolution 11-0002-S123 (regarding Citizens United v. FEC)

Dear Council Member Rosendahl:

On December 11, 2011, The City Council of Los Angeles unanimously passed Resolution: 11-0002-S123: Corporate Activities in Electoral Processes which calls upon the United States Congress to draft a legislative remedy to the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United v. The Federal Election Commission."

The Venice Neighborhood Council joins the City Council of Los Angeles in its call for an amendment to The U.S. Constitution to firmly establish that money is not speech and that human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights.

On January 21, 2010, with its ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, the Supreme Court ruled that corporations are persons, entitled by the U.S. Constitution to unduly influence elections.

The Venice Neighborhood Council members believe that the Supreme Court is misguided in principle, and wrong on the law. In a democracy, the authority of the government is derived from its citizens and as such, the citizens rule. If we wish to limit corporate campaign contributions, it is our right to do so.

We agree with Justice John Paul Stevens who stated in his dissenting opinion that the Court's opinion is "a rejection of the common sense of the American people, who have recognized a need to prevent corporations from undermining self government since the founding, and who have fought against the distinctive corrupting potential of corporate electioneering since the days of Theodore Roosevelt.

While American democracy is imperfect, few outside the majority of this Court would have thought its flaws included a dearth of corporate money in politics."

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Lucks".

Linda Lucks
President