

CJAC – SD28 “It’s True TV”

MB Truth Box 5-1-14

Audio/Visual Element	Substantiation
<p>It’s true. Sacramento is a swamp tainted by a toxic mix of scandal, money, favoritism.</p> <p>Jeff Stone fits right in</p> <p>Here’s proof.</p>	<p>Political rhetoric</p>
<p>Stone paid his sister hundreds of thousands for political work...</p> <p>...then gave her free use of a taxpayer paid county car and gasoline</p> <p>That’s wrong.</p>	<p>This claim is accurate based on a news article that appeared in the Riverside Press Enterprise on March 24, 2009. A complete copy of this news article is provided below as Attachment 1.</p>
<p>CG: OFFICIAL’S SISTER PAID FROM HIS FUNDS</p> <p>\$180,000 in campaign money last year for political consulting and professional services and he assigned her the free use of a county car with taxpayer-funded gasoline included. Riverside Press-Enterprise, March 24, 2009</p>	<p>The graphic excerpt and citation are confirmed as accurate – see Attachment 1 below for a complete copy of this news article.</p>
<p>After media reports exposed Stone’s scheme, a law was passed banning it.</p> <p>We deserve better.</p> <p>Shake up Sacramento. Stop Jeff Stone.</p>	<p>This claim is accurate based on news articles that appeared in the Riverside Press Enterprise (June 21, 2009) and San Diego Union Tribune (August 23, 2010). Complete copies of these news articles are provided below as Attachment 2.</p> <p>The legislation in question, AB 1399, was signed into law on August 13, 2010.</p> <p>http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/postquery?bill_number=ab_1399&sess=0910&house=B&author=anderson</p>
<p>CG: A Law Was Passed Banning Stones Scheme</p> <p>CG: Chaptered AB 1399 graphic</p>	<p>The graphic is confirmed as follows.</p> <p>http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill_asm/ab_1351-1400/ab_1399_bill_20100813_chaptered.pdf</p> <p>A screen shot of the bill taken from the official California Legislative website is shown below as Attachment 3.</p>

Attachment 1: Riverside Press Enterprise Article

The Press Enterprise (Riverside, CA.)

March 24, 2009, Tuesday

OFFICIAL'S **SISTER PAID FROM HIS FUNDS;
Supervisor: He Touts Her County Pro-bono Efforts
While Giving Her \$180,000 From His Campaign For
Consulting Work.**

BYLINE: JULIA GLICK, THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

SECTION: A SECTION; Pg. A01

LENGTH: 1006 words

Supervisor **Jeff Stone** frequently praises his **sister** as Riverside County's best bargain because she works full-time as an unpaid volunteer in his office.

But records show he paid Lori Stone more than \$180,000 in campaign money last year for political consulting and professional services and he assigned her the free use of a **county car** with taxpayer-funded gasoline included.

Over the past three years, Stone's campaign payments to his **sister** totaled about \$330,000.

In reporting this story, The Press-Enterprise tried to interview Lori Stone and another staff member. **Jeff Stone** directed them not to comment and asked that requests be referred to him.

Stone then declined to discuss the issues in person or by phone, saying he wanted all questions submitted in writing by e-mail. The Press-Enterprise declined. Stone then sent a lengthy e-mail defending his **sister's** use of a **county car** and her volunteer service.

"In addition to Lori putting in 50 to 60 hours a week of her time to improve the quality of life of women in the 3rd District, she was having to endure a personal expense of transporting herself throughout the County to do the fine work she does," he wrote. "I felt it was a lot to ask of a full time volunteer to not only donate her time to the County pro bono but to expect her to pay for all her travel expenses."

Stone, who plans to run for state Sen. Dennis Hollingsworth's seat in 2010, said his **sister's** use of a **county car** as his volunteer legislative assistant is consistent with county policies.

County spokesman Ray Smith said restrictions on volunteers' use of county vehicles do not apply to supervisors, only to the department heads and workers that serve under them.

Roman Porter, spokesman for the state's Fair Political Practices Commission, said Stone's payments to his **sister** do not violate any laws provided they are entirely for political, legislative or governmental purposes.

But the large amount of money to a sibling raises questions, said Bob Stern, president of the Los Angeles-based Center for Governmental Studies.

Stone paid his **sister** almost \$40,000 more in 2008 than he earned as a county supervisor.

Stone was re-elected by a landslide in 2008 against a challenger who raised less than \$1,000, a fact that gave Stern pause.

"Campaign consultants do not get almost \$200,000 for noncompetitive races," Stern said, adding: "I don't think any legislative assistant gets \$200,000. The question is what is she doing for her pay? I think this is case No. 1 for saying relatives should not be paid out of campaign funds because it's just too open for abuse."

VOLUNTEER WORK?

Stern said Stone could legally pay a legislative assistant's salary out of his campaign funds, but the pay must be in line with the amount of work and the skill level of the person performing it.

That aside, Stone has repeatedly said his **sister** works entirely for free for the county, identifying her as a "volunteer" on his Web Site.

Lori Stone works on homelessness issues, serves on the Riverside County Women's Commission and was appointed official county spokeswoman for the Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement team, Stone said in his e-mail. He added that she has launched and run several successful fundraisers for nonprofit organizations.

"Replacing her on my staff would cost the county a minimum of \$60-70,000 per year in salary not including benefits," he said. "The citizens of this county are the beneficiaries of her pro-bono work."

County rules would not permit Stone to directly hire his **sister** for his staff or directly supervise her.

A county ordinance forbids county officers, including supervisors, from involvement in decisions to employ, retain, promote or make work assignments for a sibling or other immediate relative on the county payroll. The ordinance does not apply to volunteers, county spokesman Smith said.

COUNTY CAR

Lori Stone has never been on the county payroll but drives a **county car**, a 2000 Ford Explorer. The county purchased the sport utility vehicle in 1999 for its Transportation and Land Management Agency, records show.

In May 2007, the car was transferred to Stone's office, where it was assigned to Lori Stone, according to fleet records.

The car had almost 105,000 miles on it when it was reassigned and is now nearing 132,000 miles, according to fleet records. Drivers of county vehicles rely on county gas pumps and county maintenance services, officials said.

Bob Howdyshell, director of county purchasing and fleet services, said supervisors' staff members often seek cars that have been used by other departments in the interest of frugality. But Lori Stone's situation is one-of-a-kind because she is a full-time volunteer, he said.

"I am not familiar with anyone who is a volunteer and has a long-term arrangement with a vehicle," he said of the vehicles used in county departments.

A county ordinance states that volunteers may not use county vehicles without justification from the relevant department head and authorization from the county executive officer.

But the requirement does not apply to the supervisors or their staff, Smith said. That's because supervisors set policy and oversee the county executive officer and department heads, he said. The requirements do not specifically refer to supervisors, he added.

Only the board would have the ability to change those rules to include them and their staffs, Smith said.

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CONSULTING PAY

Riverside County Supervisor **Jeff Stone** says his **sister** Lori Stone is a volunteer in his office. Meanwhile he has paid her more than \$330,000 in campaign funds for consulting and professional work over the past three years.

2008

Campaign contributions: \$218,696

Payments made: \$444,115

Consulting, professional payments to Lori Stone: \$181,000

2007

Campaign contributions: \$302,390

Payments made: \$266,769

Consulting, professional payments to Lori Stone: \$84,000

2006

Campaign contributions: \$342,412

Payments made: \$268,009

Consulting, professional payments to Lori Stone: \$67,076

SOURCE: CAMPAIGN FINANCE FILINGS

GRAPHIC: (1) **Jeff Stone** (2) Lori Stone MUGS

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: NEWSPAPER

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Attachment 2: Riverside Press Enterprise/San Diego Union Tribune Articles

The Press Enterprise (Riverside, CA.)

June 21, 2009, Sunday

OVERTONES SAID IN LEGISLATION; Rules For Volunteers: An Assemblyman's Bill Covers A Topic That Mirrors A Situation Involving A Riverside County Supervisor.

BYLINE: DUANE W. GANG, THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

SECTION: LOCAL PLUS; Pg. D01

LENGTH: 521 words

In what could be the first salvo in a campaign for state Senate next year, a San Diego County lawmaker is taking aim at Riverside County Supervisor **Jeff Stone**.

Assemblyman Joel Anderson, R-Alpine, introduced legislation to bar elected county officials from hiring their relatives and giving them the use of public resources, such as **county cars**.

Anderson introduced the bill, AB 1399, after reading media reports about Stone and the volunteer work his **sister**, Lori Stone, does for the supervisor. Lori Stone has used a **county car** for her duties.

The bill would prohibit county elected officials from hiring an immediate family member if that person would be under the direct supervision of the official. The bill would also prohibit an elected county official from making a gift of public funds, such as the use of a **county car**, without a public vote.

Anderson said the legislation is intended to strengthen existing rules.

"It doesn't just close the loophole for one supervisor but supervisors up and down the state," said Anderson, whose office put out background material on the bill that includes newspaper stories about Stone.

But Stone, who was set to announce his candidacy for state Senate on Saturday, said the legislation is nothing more than a political swipe at him.

"It is a nebulous piece of legislation," Stone said in an interview.

Anderson is said to be interested in seeking the same 36th District Senate seat. The two could face off next June in the Republican primary to replace Sen. Dennis Hollingsworth, R-Murrieta, who has to leave office because of term limits.

Stone called it an embarrassment that Anderson would spend public resources on the legislation at a time when the state is struggling to close a multibillion budget gap.

Lori Stone volunteers for the supervisor, since it already is against county policy for the supervisor to hire her, although she does receive payments from the supervisor's campaign account.

The supervisor said he let his **sister** use a county vehicle because of the miles and hours she put in for his office. It would have been more expensive to taxpayers for her to have received mileage reimbursement, Stone said.

The car is only used for county business, Stone said.

"He has to pick on the supervisor's little **sister**," Stone said. "We have followed county policy for her and every other volunteer in the county."

A county ordinance forbids county officers, including supervisors, from involvement in decisions to employ, retain, promote or make work assignments for a sibling or other immediate relative on the county payroll. The ordinance does not apply to volunteers.

Anderson, who declined to say whether he was seeking the Senate seat, said the issue isn't political and the bill has bipartisan support. It currently is before the Assembly Rules Committee.

"There are 21 co-authors. Are they all running against him?" Anderson said. "It is wrong. The practice is wrong. I am not picking on him per se. We are closing the loophole on all of them."

Anderson said labor unions and local elected officials also support the legislation.

Reach Duane W. Gang at 951-368-9547 or dgang@PE.com

GRAPHIC: (1) **Jeff Stone** (2) Joel Anderson MUGS

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: NEWSPAPER

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The San Diego Union-Tribune

August 23, 2010 Monday

ANDERSON ETHICS MEASURE IS SIGNED INTO LAW; Bill bans family use of government **cars** and credit cards

BYLINE: MICHAEL GARDNER, U-T

SECTION: Local; Pg. B-1

LENGTH: 360 words

DATELINE: SACRAMENTO

SACRAMENTO

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has signed a bill to bar officials from allowing immediate family members to use **cars** and credit cards issued by a local government, such as a county or city.

The legislation was introduced by Assemblyman Joel Anderson, R-La Mesa, during his bitter feud with an eventual campaign opponent, who many believed was the target of the measure.

Anderson came under attack not so much for carrying the bill but for how he promoted it to voters during his state Senate race as well as for its underlying intent.

His primary election foe was **Jeff Stone**, a Riverside County supervisor who had come under criticism for allowing his **sister** full-time use of a county-owned **car**. She was a volunteer in his office.

Anderson sent a taxpayer-financed mailer to voters in his district devoted to touting the legislation, claiming that "honest elected officials are tarnished by the bad actors that use their office to enrich their family members. ... Local politicians are using public money as personal slush funds."

The mailer was legal, but some political ethics experts were disturbed by what they saw as a blatant political campaign piece. Stone called it "politically motivated."

He also said that his **sister's** use of the **car** was "aboveboard" and "everything was legal." She later switched to using her own **car**.

Anderson went on to beat Stone, 40 percent to 31 percent, in the June primary and is the favorite to defeat Democrat Paul Clay, a teacher from Murrieta, in the Republican-leaning district.

The district stretches from southwestern Riverside County almost to the border with Mexico.

In an interview last week, Anderson dismissed insinuations that the measure squarely aimed at just one target: Stone.

"It includes everyone," he said of Assembly Bill 1399. "It's good public policy."

The legislation received broad support, including from Democrats. It sailed through both houses on unanimous votes.

The governor did not comment about the bill when he signed it late last week.

Legislation bars officials from allowing immediate family members to use **cars** and credit cards issued by a local government

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Attachment 3: Chaptered Version of AB 1399

Assembly Bill No. 1399

CHAPTER 128

An act to add Section 50084.5 to the Government Code, relating to local government.

[Approved by Governor August 13, 2010. Filed with
Secretary of State August 13, 2010.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1399, Anderson. Local officials.

Existing provisions of the California Constitution prohibit the Legislature from making any gift of public money or thing of value to any person, and this prohibition applies to local government. Existing law specifies the duties of various local officials.

This bill would prohibit a local official, subject to specified exceptions, from making available to an immediate family member, as defined, a vehicle or credit card provided by the local agency that the local official represents.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 50084.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

50084.5. (a) (1) A local official, whether elected or appointed, shall not make available to an immediate family member a public vehicle owned or operated by, or a credit card issued by, the local agency that the local official represents except in the case of medical emergency.

(2) For purposes of this section, "immediate family member" means a spouse, child, in-law, parent, or sibling of the local official.

(b) This section shall not apply to a local official if the legislative body of the local agency that the local official represents has adopted an ordinance, resolution, or other measure that prohibits the conduct described in subdivision (a).

http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill_asm/ab_1351-1400/ab_1399_bill_20100813_chaptered.pdf