

18. October. 2001

Editor
Voice of the People
Akron Beacon Journal
sent via fax

To the Editor,

Akron Mayor Don Plusquellic's October 16 comment on TV 23 that passage of Issue 7 will permit "Bin-Laden like supporters to run for political office in Akron" is despicable. Issue 7 provides a limited amount of public funding to qualified candidates running for council and the mayor in Akron.

It is shameful that the Mayor seeks to play the "Bin Laden card" in a pathetic attempt to defeat an issue that has absolutely nothing to do with terrorism.

Such distracting and distorting tactics by many opponents of campaign finance reform is nothing new. After all, City Hall seeks to scare voters by claiming that nearly \$3 million (Issue 6) is needed to fund public financing -- an initiative that can be paid for out of the Mayor's and Council's operating budgets without any additional taxes.

To associate clean money Issue 7 in any way with terrorism demeans the horrific acts of September 11 and insults the intelligence of Akron voters.

I trust Akron voters will see through such immature antics by voting yes on Issue 7.

Sincerely,

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