



**Lopsided spending in DCCC races tops \$2,000,000;  
Dark-money network pours additional \$1,300,000 into race via shadowy voter guides;  
Garry Tan puts \$80,000 into DCCC campaigns since making death threats**

**Lopsided Spending**

Candidates for the Democratic County Central Committee allied with the GrowSF-AbundantSF-VibrantSF-TogetherSF-Neighbors for a Better SF dark money network have received more than three times the funding of candidates for the Labor and Working Families slate, according to new filings posted with the San Francisco Ethics Commission yesterday.

Total spending for all candidates combined exceeds \$2 million. Money pouring in from individuals and organizations funded by or associated with the dark money networks stands at **\$1,560,000**, compared with \$454,000 for the labor-backed slate, a ratio of more than 3 to 1.

The table below shows the totals:

<b>Assembly District</b>	<b>Working Families</b>	<b>Dems for Change</b>	<b>Total</b>
AD 19	\$180,485	\$698,309	\$878,794
AD 17	\$273,238	\$861,895	\$1,135,133
Total	\$453,723	\$1,560,204	\$2,013,927

Vibrant SF, a recently emerged shadow organization, accounts for more than one-third of the dark money spending in the DCCC campaigns with all \$587,000 of its spending going to the “Democrats for Change” slate. Two donors, Chris Larsen and Emmett Shear, account for 61% of the funds going to VibrantSF.

### **Dark Money Slate Cards**

In addition to the \$1.56 million donated directly to Democrats for Change campaigns, the publishers of shadowy voter guides with little or no public transparency have poured \$1.3 million more into the DCCC campaigns.

Neighbors for a Better SF has spent over \$900,000 on Slate Mailer Organizations with names like Women for Common Sense Government, Fix San Francisco and TakeActionSF. None of these organizations list a board of directors, have members, or conduct public processes (such as a membership vote) to determine their endorsements. They are opaque conduits for huge sums of money, much of which has gone to benefit candidates running within the DCCC.

“These BigMoneySF-backed Slate Mailer organizations are particularly concerning, because they’re being used to deceive San Franciscans by making certain candidates and propositions appear to enjoy broad-based popularity across many different grassroots organizations,” said Jeremy Mack, director of The Phoenix Project. “These slate mailer groups keep popping up out of nowhere, and unlike The Harvey Milk Club or League of Pissed Off Voters, none of them seem to be truly independent from one another. They are, rather, different shades of the same dark money organizations funding them. It’s a smokescreen.”

Another slate mailer publisher, GrowSF Voter Guide, has spent \$365,000 in this election cycle fueled by a \$50,000 donation from Garry Tan. The so-called “mastermind” of the dark money networks political strategy, Tan is best known for issuing death threats to seven San Francisco Supervisors. Tan serves as President of the Board of Grow SF.

### **Garry Tan still a big spender in DCCC campaigns**

Regardless of Tan’s death threats, DCCC candidates continue to accept his donations. He has contributed a total of \$80,000 to candidates and voter guides supporting the Dems for Change candidates allied with the dark money organizations.

Trevor Chandler for Supervisor 2024	\$500.00
Bilal Mahmood for DCCC Member 2024	\$5,000.00
Michael Lai for Democratic County Central Committee 2024	\$1,000.00
Jade Tu for Democratic County Central Committee 2024	\$1,000.00

Nancy Tung for Democratic County Central Committee 2024	\$5,000.00
Lily Ho for Democratic County Central Committee 2024	\$5,000.00
Matt Dorsey for Democratic County Central Committee 2024	\$2,500.00
Families for a Vibrant SF Sponsored by Effective Government	\$10,000.00
GrowSF Voter Guide	\$50,000

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