

From: Nicole Pearce
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 12:39 PM
To: Owen, Sue (CMG-Austin)

Sue,

Linda Koop was a tax-raising, big government spender on the Dallas City Council while Rep. Carter fought in the Texas House to keep the state budget under control and watch out for taxpayer dollars. Unlike Koop, Carter is a proven and principled fiscal conservative. Rep. Carter paid for the traditional “sine die” celebration at the end of the 2011 Legislative session, as well as one birthday party for a staff member in 2013, with campaign funds, not taxpayer dollars.

Nicole J Pearce

Campaign Manager

Carter for Texas

From: Craig Murphy
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 2:03 PM
To: Owen, Sue (CMG-Austin)

My understanding is that parties like this have all but disappeared since the Nestande case.

That is why it is surprising that Carter is still doing it.

I feel like with regard to the issues raised in your question, we have 100% of our bases covered.

There are former Carter staffers who could verify all this (albeit, without having their names used) but since she actually put it in the campaign finance report (July 2011 Carter Semiannual and July 2013 Semi-annual) there is hardly much controversy in the issue.

We obviously felt voters would not be sympathetic to the idea of a margarita party for morale boosting or any other purposes. The Nestande case should have ended it for any but the most tone deaf.

From: Texans for Public Justice

Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2014 3:12 PM

To: Owen, Sue (CMG-Austin)

Sue,

Under current law one can supplement your staff using campaign funds. I see no legal barrier to supplementing them with a tasty margarita. The fundamental test for use of campaign funds is whether they have been converted to "personal use" of you or your family. If only the family came to the party, there might be a problem.

-Craig McDonald