

Baker Hostetler

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This statement is made in response to the many inquiries the Trustee and his counsel have received regarding contributions by Fair Finance Company co-owner Timothy S. Durham to various political campaigns. Senator Mike Delph of Indiana's 29<sup>th</sup> District has returned \$10,000 in campaign contributions that he received from Durham.

Senator Delph has done the right thing. He came forward and returned the funds without being asked, and before Mr. Durham was indicted.

Months ago, the Trustee sent letters to many other politicians explaining the circumstances and asking them to return the contributions they received from Durham. The campaigns that received the largest amounts include Governor Mitch Daniels, Carl Brizzi, Paul Ricketts, the Indiana Republican State Committee, and the Greater Indianapolis Republican Finance Committee. Governor Daniels responded, and we hope for mutual resolution through continued discussions. Most others did not respond.

We were also disappointed by media reports that some campaigns stated they will not return the contributions because they were already spent. Such a glib response is not a defense, and it trivializes the losses suffered by the victims. If money were stolen from the people who made those statements, we wonder if they would be satisfied with that explanation. We understand that the campaigns did not plan to have to return these contributions, but the victims also did not plan to be cheated.

We hope that those who received campaign contributions from or through Durham will contact us and arrange to return those funds for the benefit of the victims. The Trustee would much rather resolve these issues amicably, but will not hesitate to pursue other action if necessary.

Anyone who wishes to discuss the return of contributions should contact Kelly Burgan at (216) 861-7395.

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