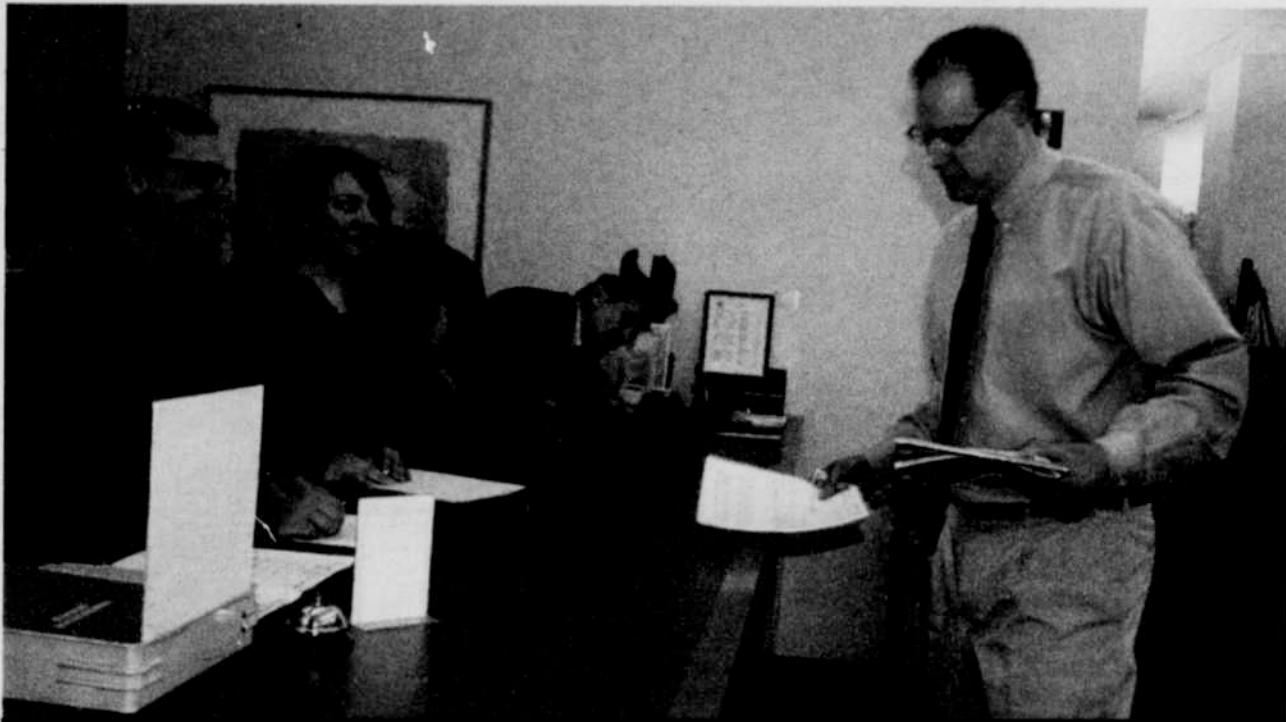


NORTHWEST BRIEFS



On July 7, Jasun Wurster and volunteer legal counsel Erin Fitzgerald of the Community to Recall Sam Adams filed paperwork with City Hall Elections Officer Andrew Carlstrom, whom Wurster thanked for his help and "neutrality."

Recall Sam Adams Update

The Community to Recall Sam Adams opened campaign office headquarters on August 3, almost a month after filing papers with the City Hall Elections Office. According to chief petitioner and recall spokesman Jasun Wurster, the donated space, an approximately 1,000 square-foot office located at 421 N. Broadway, is "indicative of the increased support we are seeing from the business community."

The open house event, at which Wurster and other organizers trained volunteers on how to collect signatures from registered Portland voters, came on the heels of Wurster's July 29 statement to City Council members. During the weekly communications period in chambers, Wurster addressed alleged threats of retaliation to those signing or volunteering to collect signatures for the campaign during off-work hours, describing reaction to his remarks as "very telling of how [Commissioner] Randy [Leonard] and Sam [Adams] are reacting to the Recall."

"Randy, please stop being Sam's mouthpiece," Wurster said, to which a visibly upset Leonard replied, "I am not Sam's mouthpiece. Sam asked me for his forgiveness and I gave it to him." Adams, for his part, was silent.

During the public comment period, Wurster also discussed reports he had received of people falsely representing the recall effort in an attempt to prevent signatures from being validated. "Sadly we are seeing those who do not support our positive recall resort to some pretty underhanded tactics," Wurster later told *Just Out*. "This includes a volunteer who was physically accosted by a male who identified himself as a member of the GLBT community at the Farmers Market in the South Park Blocks last Saturday [August 1]. We also have had reports of people falsely representing the recall attempting to take signed petitions from businesses who are collecting."

Some \$13,780 in donations and in-kind contributions had been raised as of press time. Wurster said over 350 volunteers had been trained, with upwards of 4,500 petitions in the field. "This translates to the ability to get 45,000 signatures," Wurster explained, adding that he was training between 10-30 volunteers in person, on the phone and via the internet and email daily.

Organizers have 90 days to collect almost 32,200 signatures from registered Portland voters to put the recall on the ballot; the recall campaign is aiming for 50,000. For more information, visit www.recallsamadams.com.

—Amanda Schurr

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