

LAW OFFICES OF
ROBERT DE VRIES
150 POST STREET, SUITE 600
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108

(415) 546-5100

October 28, 2019

Vallie Brown
319 Frederick Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

Re: Mary Packer

Dear Ms. Brown:

I represent Mary Packer. My office also represented Mary Packer in 1996 when she sued you and your co-owners of the property at 152-A Fillmore Street for wrongful eviction.

Mary is not a politician or activist. She was shocked to recently find out that you publicly accused her (and the other tenants of the Fillmore Street building that you and your cohorts evicted) of not having paid rent in years and refusing to pay rent. By way of nonexclusive example, see the verbiage at the top of page 2 of the screenshot that I took today from your campaign website, which is attached as Exhibit "A".

Mary is not the type to be bullied by anyone. Shocked and upset to find her name being dragged through the mud with false accusations, she once again contacted my office.

It is common (and unfortunately somewhat expected) that politicians will falsely accuse their opponents of various transgressions. What is not expected is for a politician in the course of her campaign to attack a low-income person of color with false accusations – particularly when the person attacked has no involvement in politics and is just a normal citizen of San Francisco.

To be clear – this is not a she said/she said situation. Attached to this letter as Exhibit "B" is a copy of an accounting filed with the probate court relating to the sale of the Fillmore Street property. That accounting clearly shows that Mary Packer, as well as the other tenants in the building, were in fact paying their rent.

There is no legitimate question that your accusations against Ms. Packer are false.

Demand is hereby made that you immediately and publicly withdraw your false accusations against Mary Packer, and that the withdrawal of the false accusations be made by the same methods as the false accusation were made-on your website, in campaign mailings, and whatever other method of distribution that you may have used for your false accusations.

If you make the demanded retractions no later than close of business on October 30, 2019, Ms. Packer will accept that as an apology and will forego her right to file a defamation action against you.

Vallie Brown
October 28, 2019
Page Number 2

Alternatively, if you fail to retract your false accusations, that failure will be used as evidence of malice on your part.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ROBERT DE VRIES', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

ROBERT DE VRIES
encl.

BIG NEWS! Vallie is endorsed by the San Francisco Democratic Party! (/endorsements)

Fact Check:

DEAN PRESTON'S TENANT UNION ATTACK MAILER IS SHAMELESSLY DECEPTIVE

A new attack mailer from Dean Preston and the Tenants Union shamelessly distorts Supervisor Vallie Brown's housing history, criticizing her purchase with friends of a small apartment building in 1994. We want you to know the facts.

Fact: This was 25 years ago and Vallie's opponents are trying to distort the record.

In 1994, Vallie and her friends banded together to buy a small apartment building in the Lower Haight, after living communally in SOMA warehouses and getting evicted regularly.

Fact: Vallie and her young artist friends scraped together a few thousand dollars to buy a small apartment building in the Lower Haight.

Pooling what little they had and asking generous friends for down-payment loans, Vallie and her friends were able to pool enough money to secure a mortgage on a \$275,000 building that was in probate court.

Exhibit "A"

Fact: The building had fallen into disrepair and the tenants refused to pay rent.

Vallie and her friends bought the building without knowing the whole story inside. The building was in complete disrepair and tenants had not paid rent in years. People came and went from the building, and one unit was being used just for storage.

Fact: Tenants were asked to stay, but refused because staying would mean paying rent.

The reality is that the rent the tenants were asked to pay was less than market rate or whatever they could afford, they still declined. This was in the 1990s when the neighborhood was depressed and the typical rent was less than \$400 per month.

Fact: For over 20 years, Vallie took care of the small apartment building and was the last of the original group of friends to leave.

Over the years, through the ups and downs they shared and rented the building with low-income artists, Section 8 recipients, friends, and nonprofit workers. In 2014, after Vallie's partner of 16 years died, she finally sold her home of 20 years. As her friends had moved on over the years, Vallie had secured additional loans from the bank to cover their shares, which left her with just enough equity to buy a new home for herself.

Fact: Vallie became a legendary activist and has spent the past 25 years protecting renters, creating new rental housing, and contributing to District 5.

Dean Preston, who lives in a mansion overlooking Alamo Square, uses his inherited wealth to use tenants to attack our neighborhood supervisor who he sees as simply a political opponent, despite her longtime engagement and activism in the neighborhood.

Fact: Vallie has a long history of fighting for tenants. As our Supervisor, Vallie has taken an active and creative approach to protecting renters.

Vallie created Displaced Tenant Preference to help at-risk or displaced renters find new housing and give them higher priority in lotteries for affordable housing, created Neighborhood Preference Policy to give existing local residents priority for new affordable housing in District 5, expanded the City's program to buy at-risk rent-controlled buildings by \$40 million, preventing Ellis Act evictions and permanently preserving affordable, rent-controlled housing, co-sponsored legislation to protect renters being "renovicted," and is fighting against corporate landlord rent increases and pass throughs.

SEE VALLIE'S RECORD

FIGHTING FOR RENTERS > (TENANTS)



MEET VALLIE (MEET_VALLIE)

ENDORSEMENTS (ENDORSEMENTS)

LATEST NEWS (LATEST_NEWS)

EVENTS (EVENTS)

PHOTOS ([HTTPS://WWW.FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/157656703@N05/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/157656703@N05/))

ISSUES (ISSUES)

**NEIGHBORHOOD
SURVEY (SURVEY)**

**GET INVOLVED
(GET_INVOLVED)**

**CONTRIBUTE
(CONTRIBUTE)**

CONTACT

 [\(HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VALLIEBROWND5/\)](https://www.facebook.com/VALLIEBROWND5/) [hello@VoteVallie.com \(mailto:hello@VoteVallie.com\)](mailto:hello@VoteVallie.com)

 [\(HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/VALLIEBROWND5/\)](https://www.instagram.com/VALLIEBROWND5/)

 [\(HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/VALLIEBROWND5\)](https://twitter.com/VALLIEBROWND5)

CAMPAIGN OFFICE

505-A Divisadero Street, SF, CA 94117

M-F 12PM - 8PM

Sat 9AM - 5PM

Paid for by Vote Vallie Brown for Supervisor 2019. Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org.

Created with NationBuilder (<http://nationbuilder.com/>)

ESTATE: 102 Estate of Gilbert W. Clark (ESTATE WITH TRUST)
SCHEDULE: I1 INCOME COLLECTED FROM: 06/14/92 THROUGH: 08/31/94
NO. COMPL DATE TR# DESCRIPTION

AMOUNT

SCHEDULE I1 (CONTINUED)
INCOME COLLECTED

06/22/94	Total of all checks = 570.88	203.52
000487	INTEREST PAYMENT # 2 (3 cks) Meier & Topolos 285.44 + V Brown 143.75 + L Hitchcock 142.72 = Total 571.91	
08/01/94	INTEREST PAYMENT # 3 (3 cks) Meier & Topolos 285.44 + V Brown 142.72 + L Hitchcock 142.72 = Total 570.88	200.75
08/19/94	INTEREST PAYMENT # 4 (3 cks) Meier & Topolos 285.44 + V Brown 142.72 + L Hitchcock 142.72 = Total 570.88	197.98
000606		
		808.50

2,034.81

TOTAL INTEREST

SECTION 4
RENTS

5. P00016

Rental Income -
Wandolyn (Wanda) Dessman
148 Fillmore St, SF, CA 94117

08/31/92	Rental income received	280.00
000019	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 8/17/92	
09/25/92	Rental income received	280.00
000029	Safeway Republic Monery Order Company dated 9/11/92	
10/22/92	Rental income received	270.00
000045	Safeway Republic Money Order Co dated 10/04/92	
12/21/92	Rental income received	550.00
000060	Safeway Republic Money Order Company 1-dated 12/06/92 (\$270) 2-dated 11/25/92 (\$150+\$130)	

08/31/94

 ESTATE: 102 Estate of Gilbert W. Clark (ESTATE WITH TRUST)
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 NO. COMPL DATE TR# DESCRIPTION

AMOUNT

SCHEDULE I1 (CONTINUED)
 INCOME COLLECTED

04/02/93	Rental income received	280.00
000114	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 3/20/93	
04/02/93	Rental income received	280.00
000116	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 2/06/93	
06/08/93	Rental income received	280.00
000141	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 4/27/93	
06/08/93	Rental income received	280.00
000503	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 5/21/93	
08/02/93	Rental income received	70.00
000163	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 7/02/93	
08/02/93	Rental income received	300.00
000164	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 7/02/93	
08/02/93	Rental income received	50.00
000165	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 7/15/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	50.00
000177	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 8/05/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	300.00
000178	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 8/05/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	20.00
000179	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 8/05/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	20.00
000180	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 8/07/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	30.00
000182	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 8/16/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	200.00
000183	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 9/01/93	

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NO. COMPL DATE TR# DESCRIPTION

AMOUNT

SCHEDULE I1 (CONTINUED)
INCOME COLLECTED

10/15/93	Rental income received	80.00
000188	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 9/20/93	
11/19/93	Rental income received	280.00
000220	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 10/15/93	
12/22/93	Rental income received	280.00
000506	Check dated 11/22/93	
02/23/94	Rental income received	280.00
000259	Check dated 1/03/94	
03/31/94	Rental income received	280.00
000280	Check dated 2/01/94	
04/28/94	Rental income received	220.00
000296	Check dated 4/08/94	
	-----	4,960.00

6. P00017 Rental Income -
Thomas L Cotton
152 Fillmore St, SF, CA 94117

08/31/92	Rental income received	205.00
000020	US Postal Money Order 8/11/92	
09/25/92	Rental income received	205.00
000030	US Postal Money Order 9/04/92	
10/22/92	Rental income received	205.00
000046	US Postal Money Order 10/05/92	
12/21/92	Rental income received	205.00
000063	US Postal Money Order 11/16/92	
01/20/93	Rental income received	205.00
000082	US Postal Money Order 12/21/92	
02/16/93	Rental income received	205.00
000094	US Postal Money Order 1/14/93	
04/02/93	Rental income received	205.00
000117	US Postal Money Order 2/11/93	
04/28/93	Rental income received	205.00
000121	US Postal Money Order 4/09/93	
06/08/93	Rental income received	205.00
000139	US Postal Money Odrder 5/14/93	

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AMOUNT

SCHEDULE I1 (CONTINUED)
INCOME COLLECTED

06/08/93	Rental income received	205.00	
000140	US Postal Money Order 5/21/93		
07/20/93	Rental income received	205.00	
000157	US Postal Money Order 6/18/93		
08/02/93	Rental income received	205.00	
000161	US Postal Money Order 7/13/93		
09/17/93	Rental income received	205.00	
000181	US Postal Money Order 8/16/93		
10/15/93	Rental income received	205.00	
000189	US Postal Money Order 9/17/93		
11/19/93	Rental income received	205.00	
000219	US Postal Money Order 10/18/93		
12/22/93	Rental income received	205.00	
000236	US Postal Money Order 11/16/93		
02/23/94	Rental income received	205.00	
000256	US Postal Money Order 12/27/93		
02/23/94	Rental income received	205.00	
000260	American Express Money Order dated 1/21/94		
04/28/94	Rental income received	205.00	
000295	US Postal Money Order 3/16/94		
			3,895.00

7. P00018

Rental Income -
Mary Fair
150 Fillmore St, SF, CA

08/31/92	Rental income received	350.00
000021	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 7/28/92	
09/10/92	Rental income received	350.00
000025	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 8/25/92	
10/22/92	Rental income received	350.00
000047	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 9/22/92	
11/13/92	Rental income received	350.00
000058	WFBk Money Order date 10/20/92	

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AMOUNT

SCHEDULE I1 (CONTINUED)
INCOME COLLECTED

12/21/92	Rental income received	350.00
000064	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 11/30/92	
02/16/93	Rental income received	350.00
000097	Check dated 1/01/93	
02/16/93	Rental income received	350.00
000098	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 1/26/93	
04/02/93	Rental income received	350.00
000502	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 2/23/93	
04/28/93	Rental income received	350.00
000124	WFBk Money Order dated 3/23/93	
06/08/93	Rental income received	350.00
000504	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 5/01/93	
07/20/93	Rental income received	350.00
000159	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 5/18/93	
08/02/93	Rental income received	350.00
000168	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 6/29/93	
08/02/93	Rental income received	350.00
000169	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 7/27/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	350.00
000185	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 8/24/93	
10/15/93	Rental income received	350.00
000190	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 10/01/93	
11/19/93	Rental income received	350.00
000221	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 10/19/93	
12/22/93	Rental income received	350.00
000239	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 11/30/93	
02/23/94	Rental income received	350.00
000254	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 12/28/93	

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AMOUNT

SCHEDULE I1 (CONTINUED)
INCOME COLLECTED

02/23/94	Rental income received	350.00	
000255	WFBk Money Order dated 1/29/94		
03/31/94	Rental income received	350.00	
000282	WFBk Money Order dated 2/23/94		
04/28/94	Rental income received	300.00	
000292	WFBk Money Order dated 3/23/94		
04/28/94	Rental income received	50.00	
000293	WFBk Money Order dated 3/23/94		
		-----	7,350.00

8. P00019

Rental Income -
Renee Jackson
1701 A Newcomb Ave, SF, CA

08/31/92	Rental income received	245.00	
000022	American Express Money Order dated 8/01/92		
09/10/92	Rental income received	245.00	
000026	Assumed Jackson(Ref: C Hilton) Los Angeles Schools Fed Cr Un check dated 8/31/92		
11/13/92	Rental income received	245.00	
000056	Safeway Republic Money Order Company dated 10/15/92		
12/21/92	Rental income received	490.00	
000061	Amer Exp \$ Order 11/11/92 Travelers Exp \$ Order 12/05/92 (\$245 + \$245)		
02/16/93	Rental income received	245.00	
000096	Travelers Express Money Order dated 1/11/93		
04/02/93	Rental income received	245.00	
000115	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 3/17/93		
04/28/93	Rental income received	245.00	
000120	Travelers Express Money Order dated 4/19/93		
04/28/93	Rental income received	245.00	
000122	US Postal Money Order dated 04/02/93		

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AMOUNT

SCHEDULE I1 (CONTINUED)
INCOME COLLECTED

06/08/93	Rental income received	245.00
000137	Travelers Express dated 5/8/93	
06/08/93	Rental income received	245.00
000138	Safeway Republic Money Order dated 5/25/93	
08/02/93	Rental income received	245.00
000162	Travelers Express Money Order dated 7/27/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	245.00
000184	Travelers Express Money Order dated 8/21/93	
11/19/93	Rental income received	146.00
000217	Travelers Express Internat'l Money Order dated 10/06/93	
11/19/93	Rental income received	245.00
000218	American Express Money Order dated 10/30/93	
12/22/93	Rental income received	212.00
000238	Travelers Express Internat'l Money Order dated 12/07/93	
02/23/94	Rental income received	100.00
000261	American Express Money Order dated 1/05/94	

		3,888.00

9. P00020 Rental Income -
Mary Packer
152-A Fillmore St, SF, CA 94117

08/31/92	Rental income received	205.00
000023	Check dated 8/01/92	
09/10/92	Rental income received	205.00
000024	Check dated 9/01/92	
10/22/92	Rental income received	205.00
000048	Check dated 9/30/92	
11/13/92	Rental income received	205.00
000057	Check dated 11/01/92	
12/21/92	Rental income received	205.00
000062	Check dated 12/01/92	

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AMOUNT

SCHEDULE I1 (CONTINUED)
INCOME COLLECTED

02/16/93	Rental income received	205.00
000093	Check dated 1/01/93	
02/16/93	Rental income received	205.00
000095	WFBk Money Order dated 1/01/93	
04/02/93	Rental income received	5.00
000118	Check dated 3/01/93	
04/02/93	Rental income received	200.00
000119	WFBk Money Order dated 3/01/93	
04/28/93	Rental income received	205.00
000123	WFBk Money Order dated 3/29/93	
06/08/93	Rental income received	205.00
000505	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 5/01/93	
07/20/93	Rental income received	205.00
000158	WFBk Money Order dated 5/27/93	
08/02/93	Rental income received	205.00
000166	WFBk Money Order dated 7/02/93	
08/02/93	Rental income received	205.00
000167	WFBk Money Order dated 7/30/93	
09/17/93	Rental income received	205.00
000186	WFBk Money Order dated 8/27/93	
10/15/93	Rental income received	205.00
000191	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 9/29/93	
11/19/93	Rental income received	205.00
000222	WFBk Money Order dated 10/29/93	
12/22/93	Rental income received	205.00
000237	Check dated 12/01/93	
02/23/94	Rental income received	205.00
000257	Check dated 12/31/93	
02/23/94	Rental income received	205.00
000258	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 1/28/94	
03/31/94	Rental income received	205.00
000281	WFBk Money Order dated 2/25/94	
04/28/94	Rental income received	205.00
000294	WFBk Personal Money Order dated 3/29/94	

		4,305.00