



## MEMORANDUM

TO: City Attorney  
Ethics Commission  
Pinaki Ghosh  
Lemuel Williams,

FROM: Jannette Goodall, City Clerk *NR* *FW*

DATE: April 25, 2016

SUBJECT: Sworn Complaint

The attached sworn complaint was received on April 25, 2016 in the Office of the City Clerk. It was filed by Pinaki Ghosh against Lemuel Williams, Chair of the Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission.

Per City Code, Chapter 2-7-41(D), this letter serves as the Office of the City Clerk's acknowledgement that the complaint was received and as notice to all those named above, as required in the code.

Attachment

2016 APR 25 AM 8 51

**ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**CHAPTER 2-7 CITY CODE**  
**COMPLAINT**

NAME OF PERSON(S) FILING COMPLAINT: Pinaki Ghosh

MAILING ADDRESS: 3606 Grant Street, Austin, TX, 78721

PHONE NUMBER: 5125772170

EMAIL ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

PLEASE FILE A SEPARATE COMPLAINT FORM FOR EACH PERSON  
COMPLAINED AGAINST.

NAME OF PERSON COMPLAINED AGAINST: Lemuel Williams

CITY OFFICE, DEPARTMENT, COMMISSION: Community Technology and Telecom  
Commission.

MAILING ADDRESS: unknown

PHONE NUMBER [IF KNOWN]: unknown

EMAIL ADDRESS [IF KNOWN]: bc-lemuel.williams@austintexas.gov

The Ethics Review Commission has jurisdiction to hear complaints alleging violation(s) of  
the following provisions:

- City Code, Chapter 2-1, Section 2-1-24 (City Boards, Conflict of Interest and Recusal)
- City Code, Chapter 2-2 (Campaign Finance)
- City Code, Chapter 2-7 (Ethics and Financial Disclosure), except for Article 6 (Anti-lobbying and Procurement)
- City Code, Chapter 4-8 (Regulation of Lobbyists)
- City Charter, Article III, Section 8 (Limits on Campaign Contributions and Expenditures)

PLEASE LIST EACH ALLEGED VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE CITY CODE AND  
CHARTER PROVISIONS SEPARATELY ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES.

I.

SECTION OF CHARTER OR ORDINANCE VIOLATED:

- City Code, Chapter 2-1, Section 2-1-24 (City Boards, Conflict of Interest and Recusal)
- City Code, Chapter 2-7 (Ethics and Financial Disclosure), except for Article 6 (Anti-lobbying and Procurement)

DATE OF ALLEGED VIOLATION: March 5, 2016

ACTIONS ALLEGED TO BE A VIOLATION:

Mr. Lemuel Williams who chairs the CTTC (Community Technology and Telecommunication Commission) has created an environment of “pay to play” where he is directly asking for gifts from speakers at the commission.

On February 10 suddenly Mr. Hugh Forrest of SXSW was invited to our commission meeting. This was never discussed in previous meetings. This was a complete waste of time for the commission so we questioned why he was brought in. There was no answer. I was seeing many corruptions in the commission so I decided to resign because I refused to put personal interest before citizen’s interest. In the month of March, I requested to see Mr. Williams’s email through an PIR. I found that Mr. Lemuel Williams was actually asking for SXSW tickets from Hugh Forrest as gift and also 4 of them. These tickets are worth \$1200 each. I have attached this example. Mr. Williams not only took the tickets but distributed them behind our back. These were never mentioned to the commission or to city clerk’s office. (attached email from Mr. Williams) Mr. Williams not only compromised his position – he distributed these tickets to other 3 women commissioners to get favor and in the process he compromised their position.

The email not only asks for gifts, but discriminates against other commission members based on their sex. This is a deeply offensive email

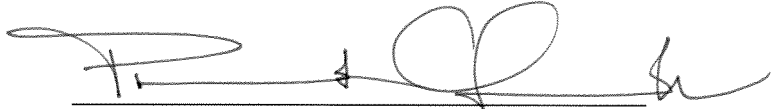
Mr. Williams also talks about looking for new leaders when he has no authority to do so because he is just one of 10.

This is a shameless exhibition of the corruption that is eating many parts of our city government. The commissions are supposed to be independent bodies and be eyes and ears of the council members to provide them the best possible advice.

WITNESSES OR EVIDENCE THAT WOULD BE PRESENTED: I would like to testify myself. I would also like to call Council Member Don Zimmerman who is represented by Mr. Williams in the commission. I would also like to provide a set of emails. (that are attached)

ALL THE STATEMENTS AND INFORMATION IN THIS COMPLAINT ARE TRUE  
AND FACTUAL TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

DATE: April 25, 2016



COMPLAINANT'S SIGNATURE

PINAKI GHOSH

PRINT NAME

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF TRAVIS

This instrument was acknowledged, sworn to and subscribed before me by

PINAKI GHOSH

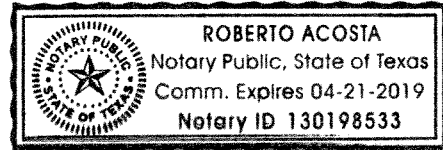
On the 25TH day of APRIL, 2016, to certify which  
witness my hand and official seal.



Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

ROBERTO ACOSTA

Typed or Printed Name of Notary



THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK.

**From:** Williams, Lemuel - BC  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Meeting & Support  
**Date:** Saturday, March 05, 2016 1:25:22 PM  
**Attachments:** OutlookEmoji-8amp;#X1f60a.png

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Hello Hugh,

Thank you as always on stopping by the commission meeting and talking about SXSW. I know for certain this year, there are many new faces you saw (especially those with deer in the headlights 🐇). I am always grateful and appreciative of your continued support of our work.

I would like to ask if it is possible this year you are able to provide several badges for 3 commission women and myself for SXSW? This coming week, I will be looking to have a record number of 11 commission members and our scope of community technology has been expanded to economic development, arts, film, etc. which will prove to be useful as discussion points going forward.

As my time comes near the end, I am looking to identify the next group of leaders and I can confidently say, the women we have on this commission are strong and I want them to see the great events going on for women by women this year at SXSW. I am getting input from each of them about what they want to accomplish as commission members and how we do it? How we get there? What that will look like for within their term limits, etc.?

It is always good to see you and I will make sure to hold Commissioner Johnson up to meeting with you after SXSW when things calm down because she made that comment public!

Thanks bud,  
Lemuel Williams

**From:** [Williams, Lemuel - BC](#)  
**To:** [Hugh Forrest](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting & Support  
**Date:** Sunday, March 06, 2016 6:18:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [OutlookEmoji-&#x1f60a.png](#)

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Thanks Hugh,  
My responses are below.

Lemuel Williams

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**From:** Hugh Forrest <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 5, 2016 11:29 AM  
**To:** Williams, Lemuel - BC  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting & Support

Hey Lemuel,

Happy weekend -- I hope you are well.

<<I would like to ask if it is possible this year you are able to provide several badges for 3 commission women and myself for SXSW?>>

Questions at my end

1) Are you saying 4 total badges? Or, more than that? Only 4. I can provide the names if necessary

2) Maybe this is the same question -- or maybe not. If we provide badges to some (but not all) commission members, isn't that going to create problems with the folks who didn't get them? No, this will not create a problem for some (but not all).

Best regards,

Hugh Forrest  
SXSW Interactive Festival | Director  
[REDACTED]  
O: 512 467-7979

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Williams, Lemuel - BC](#)  
**Subject:** Coupon: Interactive Badge discounted to \$0 for Lemuel Williams  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 08, 2016 7:18:04 AM

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Dear Lemuel,

Here is your special coupon to register for the 2016 SXSW Interactive Festival at no charge.

This special comp coupon / comp badge is non-transferrable.

Best regards,

Hugh Forrest  
SXSW Interactive Festival  
March 11-15, 2016

Hello Lemuel Williams

SXSW has issued the following coupon (or coupons) to be redeemed online for: Interactive Badge discounted to \$0

YOUR COUPON(S):

reg-ia-comp\_eqchuynco

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CAREFULLY FOLLOW EACH STEP OF THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW. REFUNDS WILL NOT BE ISSUED IN THE EVENT A COUPON CODE IS NOT REDEEMED CORRECTLY.

You must register and redeem your coupon online by logging in or creating an account at <http://cart.sxsw.com>.

Step-by-step instructions for redeeming your coupon code and registering can be found at <http://support.sxsw.com/entries/53830155-26-How-do-I-redeem-my-registration-coupon-code->

After entering the registrant data and following the steps to purchase the registration you must redeem the coupon by clicking on the BLUE "APPLY COUPON" LINK on the checkout page, just to the right of the credit card info section.

If you have any questions or difficulties with this process, please email [support@sxsw.com](mailto:support@sxsw.com) prior to checking out of the online cart.

Once the registration has been received and processed by SXSW, the registered individual will receive a confirmation email with pertinent conference information.

After following the instructions above to redeem your coupons, you can request your housing accommodations through the "Purchase History" section of the shopping cart used to redeem your coupon.

For more specific hotel reservation instructions, see:

How to Book a Hotel:

<http://sxsw.com/attend/hotels/how-to-book>

Hotel FAQs:

<http://support.sxsw.com/forums/22261686-Housing-and-Hotels>

Thank you for being a part of SXSW! We are looking forward to you joining us.

\*Registrant may not sell, resell, lease, rent, trade, auction or otherwise distribute to any third party any of the registration or credential assets provided hereunder.\*



**From:** [Hugh Forrest](#)  
**To:** [Williams, Lemuel - BC](#)  
**Subject:** SXSW / four comps for Lemuel / March 8  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 08, 2016 7:19:48 AM

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Comp coupons sent to you

And to the other three

These coupons will come as an email from [REDACTED]

Sometimes the coupon ends up in people's spam folder

Can you alert the other three to look for the email from [REDACTED] in their inbox

And, if they are not finding there . . then check their spam folder

Thanks thanks

See you later this week at SXSW!

Hugh Forrest  
SXSW Interactive Festival | Director  
[REDACTED]  
O: 512 467-7979

SXSW Music | Film | Interactive | March 11-20, 2016 | [sxsw.com](http://sxsw.com)

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