



1/24/2022

To: Cal Poly Pomona Philanthropic Foundation Board Directors

CC: Shannon Boyce, Littler (Enterprise Foundation Legal Counsel)

Subject: News Articles on Enterprise Foundation Employee Embezzlement

Recently the Poly Post and other local outlets published articles about a lawsuit that, in part, references an embezzlement from the Enterprise Foundation discovered in February of 2020 (e.g. [Lawsuit Filed Against CPP](#)). While an employee in fact defrauded the organization in the years prior to 2020, much of the other information presented is inaccurate. For example, none of the funds in this case were State, donor, grant, tuition, or student fees. All were Kellogg West enterprise dollars under the responsibility of the Enterprise Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit auxiliary corporation.

Managing the Kellogg West fraud response was complicated, particularly in the Zoom environment where COVID was often dominating our collective bandwidth. With that said, I am proud of the overall job we collectively did. This includes working with the University, Chancellor's Office, external auditors, consultants, Enterprise Foundation staff, and my Board of Directors to assess risks, enhance internal controls, and validate the resulting financial environment. All parties proved to be nothing but supportive in this process. They provided guidance and resources that enabled me to navigate this unfortunate process with integrity and care. Even CPP Associated Students, a group I presented to in the summer of 2021, offered encouragement and support.

The Philanthropic Foundation is a cherished and valued partner. We were once one organization that now works collaboratively for the betterment of this great University and the students we serve. The embezzlement was a black eye on the Enterprise Foundation and undermines the hard work of the organization's 1,700+ students and staff. While strengthening our operation is a continuous process, we are now in a significantly better position than we were when this issue was discovered. In the unlikely event that something of this nature occurs in the future, I will make a point of partnering with Philanthropic Foundation Executive Leadership to arrange a presentation with you even when no Philanthropic funds are impacted.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me should you have any questions, concerns, or input. Again, I appreciate you and our continued partnership.

Sincerely,

*Jared Ceja*

Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer

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