

A Federal Election Commission complaint was filed against Jay Chen's campaign for allegedly illegally working with a donor in Communist China.

BACKUP:

Jay Chen's mother and brother, an investment banker based in China, were the only funders of a Super PAC that ran attack ads against his opponent, which prompted a complaint to the Federal Election Commission:

Editor's Note: [Shaw Chen](#) is an American citizen born in Philadelphia, PA.

- In 2012, Jay Chen's brother, Shaw Yi Chen, funded a Super PAC that aired attack ads against Rep. Ed Royce. "A new Super PAC airing campy attack ads that call Rep. Ed Royce, 'The Creature from Washington' in a mock horror movie trailer, is funded exclusively by challenger Jay Chen's brother, according to federal campaign records. Shaw Yi Chen, 35, who grew up in Hacienda Heights, has contributed \$565,000 to America Shining, the independent expenditure committee that produced the ads, according to the latest filing with the Federal Election Commission." (Steve Scauzillo, "Ad that calls Rep. Ed Royce a monster paid for by challenger Jay Chen's brother," [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), 10/16/12)

Editor's Note: At the time the above article was written, Shaw Chen was the only contributor to the PAC; Nain Lai Chen contributed later.

- A Super PAC can raise unlimited funds and accept unlimited amounts from a single individual. "Under federal law, a Super PAC can raise unlimited funds and accept unlimited amounts from a single individual. In contrast, congressional candidates' campaigns can accept no more than \$2,500 from individual donors per election cycle, according to the FEC." (Steve Scauzillo, "Ad that calls Rep. Ed Royce a monster paid for by challenger Jay Chen's brother," [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), 10/16/12)
- Shaw Chen listed his occupation as an 'investment manager' with a company called Crescent Hyperpark and no further information was available about the company. "In the campaign finance reports, Shaw Chen listed his occupation as 'investment manager' with a company called Crescent Hyperpark. No information was available regarding the company." (Steve Scauzillo, "Ad that calls Rep. Ed Royce a monster paid for by challenger Jay Chen's brother," [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), 10/16/12)

Editor's Note: It appears the company is called [Crescent HydePark](#), not Crescent Hyperpark.

- Jay Chen's biography said his brother was an investment banker in Hong Kong. "In his biography listed on the Smart Voter website, Jay says his older brother, Shaw, like him, also went to Hacienda La Puente schools, graduated from Harvard University 'and is currently an investment banker in Hong Kong.' Jay Chen also mentioned his older brother earlier this month during interviews with this newspaper." (Steve Scauzillo, "Ad that calls Rep. Ed Royce a monster paid for by challenger Jay Chen's brother," [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), 10/16/12)
- At the time, Shaw Chen lived in Happy Valley, Hong Kong. "Records show his current address is in Happy Valley, Hong Kong." (Steve Scauzillo, "Ad that calls Rep. Ed Royce a monster paid for by challenger Jay Chen's brother," [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), 10/16/12)

- **America Shining Super PAC received \$1,115,000 in funding, including \$765,000 from Shaw Chen and \$350,000 from Nain Lai Chen.**

Recipient	Contributor	Address	Employer	Title	Date	Amount
America Shining	Chen, Shaw	2148 Punta Del Este Drive	Crescent Hyperpark	Investment Manager	8/9/12	\$15,000
America Shining	Chen, Shaw	2148 Punta Del Este Drive	Crescent Hyperpark	Investment Manager	8/23/12	\$250,000
America Shining	Chen, Shaw	2148 Punta Del Este Drive	Crescent Hyperpark	Investment Manager	9/25/12	\$300,000
America Shining	Chen, Shaw	2148 Punta Del Este Drive	Crescent Hyperpark	Investment Manager	10/15/12	\$200,000
America Shining	Chen, Nain Lai	2148 Punta Del Este Dr.	Retired	Retired	10/30/12	\$150,000
America Shining	Chen, Nain Lai	2148 Punta Del Este Dr.	Retired	Retired	11/1/12	\$200,000
					Total	\$1,115,000

(Contributions, [Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 09/22/21)

- **The Super PAC was based in San Francisco and produced numerous mail hit pieces and a commercial that aired on cable TV attacking Ed Royce.** “The San Francisco-based Super PAC produced numerous direct mail hit pieces against Royce, as well as a commercial airing on cable TV depicting Royce as a monster – the ‘creature from Washington’ – in a campy, mock-horror film genre.” (Steve Scauzillo, “Royce supporter asks for an investigation into Super PAC supported by Jay Chen’s brother,” [Pasadena Star-News](#), updated 08/29/17)
- **A supporter of Ed Royce filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission and accused Jay Chen of coordinating his campaign with an independent expenditure committee financed by his brother.** “A supporter of Rep. Ed Royce, R-Fullerton, has filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission, accusing Royce’s Democratic challenger, Jay Chen, of coordinating his campaign with an independent expenditure committee financed by his brother.” (Steve Scauzillo, “Royce supporter asks for an investigation into Super PAC supported by Jay Chen’s brother,” [Pasadena Star-News](#), updated 08/29/17)
- **Bruce John Buettell – a Fullerton resident – alleged Chen violated federal campaign rules by working in conjunction with Shaw Yi Chen’s Super PAC called America Shining.** “Bruce John Buettell, a Fullerton resident, alleges that Chen violated federal campaign rules by working in conjunction with Shaw Yi Chen’s Super PAC America Shining.” (Steve Scauzillo, “Royce supporter asks for an investigation into Super PAC supported by Jay Chen’s brother,” [Pasadena Star-News](#), updated 08/29/17)
- **The complaint said America Shining and Jay Chen’s campaign used the same vendor during the span of 120 days to run similar direct mail pieces.** “In the complaint, Buettell says America Shining and Jay Chen’s campaign used the same vendor during the span of 120 days to run similar direct mail pieces.” (Steve Scauzillo, “Royce supporter asks for an investigation into Super PAC supported by Jay Chen’s brother,” [Pasadena Star-News](#), updated 08/29/17)
- **The complaint alleged that they used a common vendor called Mailing Pros Inc. which “...must have provided information to both groups.”** “By using a common vendor,

Mailing Pros Inc., the vendor must have provided information to both groups, according to the complaint.” (Steve Scauzillo, “Royce supporter asks for an investigation into Super PAC supported by Jay Chen’s brother,” [Pasadena Star-News](#), updated 08/29/17)

Jay Chen said he did not know anything about the independent expenditure committee and had no coordination with the group:

- **Jay Chen said he did not know anything about the independent expenditure committee and had no coordination with the group.** “Last week, in a story about the Super PAC, Jay Chen, a Democrat, said he did not know anything about the independent expenditure committee America Shining and ‘had no coordination’ with the group. He said he learned about the group when he saw their Internet ad attacking Royce, a Republican from Fullerton.” (Steve Scauzillo, “Ad that calls Rep. Ed Royce a monster paid for by challenger Jay Chen’s brother,” [San Gabriel Valley Tribune](#), 10/16/12)

The San Bernardino Sun said “it strains credulity” to claim Jay Chen was not aware that his brother was funding the PAC:

- **The San Bernardino Sun said “it strains credulity” to claim Jay Chen was not aware that his brother was funding the PAC.** “Chen claimed not to know who was behind it - such anonymous PAC money can't be officially coordinated with a campaign, by law. Turns out it's entirely funded by his brother, Shaw Chen. Really? Two brothers, both smart young men who went to Harvard, not talking about such a generous level of support? It strains credulity.” (“Big, secret money ruins politics,” [The Sun](#), 10/30/12)