

**From:** sbb999@yahoo.com

**Subject: Re: Your inquiry about SMBPA payments to Dr. Carl Hammer**

**Date:** March 4, 2009 11:24:31 PM PST

**To:** michael@chwe.net

**Cc:** hugo.pedroza@smmusd.org, tcuneo@smmusd.org, mmatthews@smmusd.org, hvmweary@msn.com, leahonline2@yahoo.com, nhofland@aol.com, sakow@smmusd.org

**Reply-To:** sbb999@yahoo.com

Dear Mr. Chwe:

In response to your inquiry, the following table shows all amounts SMBPA has paid to Dr. Carl Hammer from 2005 to the present:

|          |           |                               |
|----------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 8/25/05  | \$ 330.00 | Firebird arrangement          |
| 8/24/06  | 1,500.00  | On the Waterfront arrangement |
| 3/15/07  | 42.79     | Reimbursement for postage     |
| 7/27/07  | 1,500.00  | Field show arrangement        |
| 7/25/08  | 1,500.00  | Field show arrangement        |
| 10/16/08 | 2,580.00  | Field show drill              |

Dr. Hammer is not an employee of SMBPA or the marching band. SMBPA purchased musical arrangements and marching drill from Dr. Hammer, who provides them to bands in California and other western states as part of a licensed business and at competitive prices. He is highly qualified, with a doctoral degree in music composition and many years of experience arranging and composing. Nevertheless, Dr. Pedroza has instructed Mr. Sakow to obtain the arrangement and drill for the next field show from a different provider and SMBPA will comply with these instructions.

Dr. Hammer provided a quality product and gave good value for the funds he received, as listed above. SMBPA acknowledged Dr. Hammer as arranger at band parents meetings. The marching band credited his role in football game announcements and field show programs. At no time did SMBPA engage in any deception. There is no basis for the vague allegations of corruption in your e-mail.

Further, your allegations about Dr. Hammer are inaccurate, incomplete and highly misleading. Among other misstatements, your e-mail omits the fact that the case against Dr. Hammer was dismissed in July 2008 and all charges were expunged. You should be aware that continuing publication of such misleading and inflammatory statements could lead to civil liability for defamation.

I hope this satisfies your inquiry.

Sydney B. Bennion  
Samohi Bands Treasurer

cc: Dr. Carl Hammer