Chabot’s campaign is under an ongoing grand jury investigation. Chabot cannot account for more than $120,000 in contributions. He blamed his treasurer of nine years - a man who said he had no idea he was Chabot’s campaign treasurer.

A Federal Grand Jury Was Convened In The Federal Investigation Into Money Missing From Chabot’s Campaign Account. “Congressman Steve Chabot has filed for re-election, and it comes as FOX19 NOW has learned there is a federal investigation going into money missing from his campaign with a grand jury convened in Cincinnati. […] Chabot’s longtime campaign manager, Jamie Schwartz, who also served as a former aide for the congressman, has been gone now for months. […] We are told by a person with knowledge of the situation there has been a federal investigation for a while now, since Jamie Schwartz turned himself into the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Ohio in September. The campaign is cooperating with federal law enforcement in their investigation.” [Fox19.com, 12/11/19]


Federal Investigators Were Probing More Than $123,000 Missing From Chabot’s Campaign Account. “Ohio GOP Rep. Steve Chabot’s campaign has hired a new treasurer after revealing earlier this month that federal investigators launched a probe into missing campaign funds totaling more than $123,000.” [Roll Call, 9/17/19]

August 27, 2019: The Federal Election Commission Wrote Chabot’s Campaign, Noting That Its Amended First Quarter 2019 Report Showed A $123,625.72 Increase In Receipts And Asking The Campaign To Explain The Discrepancy. “This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above [Amended April Quarterly Report (01/01/2019 – 03/31/2019). This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action. Additional information is needed for the following 2 item(s): 1. Your amended report discloses an increase in receipts totaling $123,625.72 on Line(s) 11(a)(iii) of the Detailed Summary from those disclosed on your original report. Please provide clarifying information as to why this activity was not disclosed on your original report. (11 CFR § 104.3)” [Federal Election Commission Request for Additional Information to Steve Chabot for Congress, 8/27/19]

HEADLINE: “Authorities Investigating Money Missing From Ohio Congressman Steve Chabot’s Campaign” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/4/19]

HEADLINE: “Money Missing, Chabot Vows Thorough Audit” [Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/7/19]

April 15, 2019: Chabot’s Campaign Reported Receipts Totaling $187,676.00 On Its First Quarter 2019 Campaign Finance Report. Chabot’s campaign reported “Total Receipts” of $187,676.00 on its First Quarter 2019 campaign finance report. [Federal Election Commission, Steve Chabot for Congress, filed 4/15/19]

May 6, 2019: Chabot’s Campaign Filed An Amended First Quarter 2019 Campaign Finance Report That Reported Receipts Totaling $311,311.72. On May 6, 2019, Chabot’s campaign filed an amended First Quarter 2019 campaign finance report that reported “Total Receipts” of $311,311.72. [Federal Election Commission, Steve Chabot for Congress, filed 5/6/19]

In A Statement Announcing The Campaign’s Missing Funds, Chabot’s Attorney Remarked “Unfortunately The Misappropriation Of Funds By Some Campaign Treasurers Has Been Far Too Common.” “Authorities are investigating the theft of more than $100,000 from Cincinnati-area Republican Congressman Steve Chabot’s re-election campaign. Mark Braden, an attorney for Chabot’s campaign, released a statement on Wednesday that said the congressman was ‘shocked and deeply disappointed to be informed yesterday afternoon that his campaign committee may be the victim of financial malfeasance and misappropriation of funds. ‘Unfortunately the misappropriation of funds by some campaign treasurers has been far too common an occurrence over the years,’ Braden’s statement continued. ‘Chabot for Congress is prepared to fully cooperate and assist both law enforcement and the Federal Election Commission to ensure that those responsible are held to account and to correct any inaccurate filings about the campaign’s finances as quickly as possible if any occurred. The campaign will refrain from further public comment until this matter is concluded.’ FEC records list Chabot’s campaign treasurer as Jim Schwartz. An Aug. 27 letter to Schwartz from the FEC noted that an amended report filed by Chabot’s campaign showed a $123,625.72 increase in receipts and asked Schwartz to clarify why the money wasn’t originally disclosed.” [Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/4/19]

Tribune News Service: Chabot’s Lawyer “Appeared In His Statement To Suggest That Chabot’s Campaign Committee Treasurer Could Be Responsible For The Alleged Malfeasance.” “Authorities are investigating whether
someone stole more than $100,000 from Rep. Steve Chabot's reelection fund, multiple outlets in Ohio reported Wednesday. ‘Congressman Chabot was shocked and deeply disappointed to be informed yesterday afternoon that his campaign committee may be the victim of financial malfeasance and misappropriation of funds,’ the Ohio Republican's lawyer, Mark Braden, said in a statement Wednesday afternoon. Braden appeared in his statement to suggest that Chabot's campaign committee treasurer could be responsible for the alleged malfeasance.” [Tribune News Service, 9/5/19]

2011: Chabot’s Campaign Listed James Schwartz Senior Of Cincinnati As The Campaign Treasurer. On a Statement of Organization, Chabot’s campaign listed James Schwartz Senior of 3030 Harrison Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211 as his the campaign’s Treasurer. [Federal Election Commission, Steve Chabot for Congress, filed 1/30/11]

September 2019: James Schwartz Senior, The Father Of Chabot’s Longtime Campaign Manager, Claimed He Was Not Aware That Chabot Listed Him As His Campaign Treasurer Since 2011. “It came as news to James Schwartz Sr. that he was U.S. Rep. Steve Chabot's campaign treasurer. Schwartz Sr., a jeweler in Bridgetown, released a statement Monday saying he's never been treasurer of Chabot's campaign. This despite the Federal Election Commission listing him as treasurer since 2011. […] The investigation into the missing money is believed to focus on Schwartz Sr.'s son, Jamie Schwartz. Jamie Schwartz is Chabot's longtime advisor and campaign manager.” [Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/9/19]

Chabot Treasurer James Schwartz Senior: “I Have Never Served The [Chabot] Campaign In Any Official Capacity.” Schwartz Sr., a jeweler in Bridgetown, released a statement Monday saying he's never been treasurer of Chabot's campaign. This despite the Federal Election Commission listing him as treasurer since 2011. ‘I am not, nor have I ever been, the treasurer of the Steve Chabot for Congress campaign,’ Schwartz Sr. said in the statement. ‘I have never served the campaign in any official capacity.’” [Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/9/19]

HEADLINE: “Steve Chabot's Campaign Treasurer Didn't Know He Was Treasurer” [Cincinnati Enquirer, 9/9/19]

HEADLINE: “Man Listed as Chabot's Campaign Treasurer Says He Was Not Treasurer” [The Hotline, 9/10/19]