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May 10, 2017

Response to complaint made by Mr. Glen Morgan

Mr. Morgan states in his complaint that the Fishburn for Port campaign has violated the Public Disclosure Statute on three points.

1) Failure to report all contributions and expenditures made prior to registration on the same day C1 form is submitted. (Violation of RCW 42.17A.235(1)) Failure to report contributions and expenditures made prior to registration.

Upon learning of the complaint, the campaign treasurer, Helen Wheatley, contacted the PDC for assistance, was advised to file the forms in question, and complied immediately. This information is available in the PDC records.

Ms. Wheatley then sought further clarification regarding the language of the statute cited (RCW 42.17A.235(1)) regarding “the day the treasurer is designated” and other matters. The campaign was granted an extension of the response deadline in order to address her queries.

Contributions and expenditures made prior to that date were of a mundane nature. The failure of the campaign to file the information timely was a mistake and not done with the intent of “trying to hide” information.

2) Failure to list E J Zita as a committee officer.

E J Zita is neither a committee officer nor a “responsible leader.” She has not and does not “make, direct or authorize contribution, expenditure, strategic or policy decisions on behalf of the committee.”

3) Falsely stating that labor unions, county-wide elected officials, and Mayors are endorsing the campaign.

Mr Morgan evidently sought out and viewed a website that was still in “sandbox” design phase. He found placeholder generic title headings, with no names or organizations listed. Mr. Fishburn did have endorsers at that point. The fact that those endorsers were not listed points to the fact that the website volunteer had not yet filled the data fields for the Endorsements section of the site.

In response to Mr. Morgan’s complaint, the campaign placed a change request to the volunteer website designer on May 2, 2017, requesting that the placeholder title headings be removed.

The Fishburn campaign has acted in good faith and has endeavoured conscientiously to comply with the law and its spirit.

Sincerely,

Jedidiah Haney