

Electchrisbeale replied 16 days ago (Wed, 15 Feb at 2:03 PM)

to : pdc@pdc.wa.gov

Dear Evelyn,

Thank you for forwarding the complaint registered to the Public Disclosure Commission about filing our campaign registration in a timely manner. My campaign staff and I have worked hard to carefully comply with all disclosure regulations and will continue to do so until November. We very much appreciate and respect the public disclosure process as administered by your organization.

Here is our formal response to the filed complaint.

1. We filed our PDC C1 paperwork on January 6, 2017 (corrected on January 11, 2017 due to a minor test error in the original filing), as noted by our C1 report, and made no formal announcement of candidacy or did any thing else to qualify our candidate as such prior to filing with your agency; because of this we believe the complaint is largely unfounded.
2. We never received any campaign assistance from the Pierce County Young Democrats prior to our filing on January 06, 2017, nor have we received any assistance in any form from them since properly filing our PDC. "Political assistance" is not defined under RCW 42.17A.005 (7).
3. As provided as evidence, our opponent, Mr. Van Dyk, alleges our actions regarding his official announcement of his candidacy at a public meeting without disclose to the PDC dictates that we were in turn were running as well. This is wholly unfounded and borders on absurdity. Our candidate was simply concerned about the lack disclosure of someone in his district wishing to represent him and others in the community. By turning in this evidence to the PDC, he has indicted himself as violating RCW 42.17A.005 (7)(b). PDC paperwork filed by Mr. Van Dyk disclosed his formal candidacy to your office on or around January 10, 2017, some 42 days after his formal announcement at a November 30, 2016 public meeting hosted by the Pierce County Young Democrats.
4. Due to our candidate's interest in joining the Pierce County Young Democrats and as displayed in the evidence provided, our candidate was concerned, as were others in the organization, that PDC rules were broken when our opponent announced his candidacy during the Young Democrats November 30, 2016 meeting and hadn't, in turn, filed his paperwork in a timely manner.
5. Our candidate asked the Young Democrats about filing a complaint because they were the host organization who put on a public meeting in which our opponent announced his official candidacy.
6. The complaint does not substantially demonstrate, or in any manner demonstrate, a violation of RCW 42.17A.005 (7). To that end, we offer the following analysis:

"Candidate" means any individual who seeks nomination for election or election to public office. An individual seeks nomination or election when he or she first:

- (a) Receives contributions or makes expenditures or reserves space or facilities with intent to promote his or her candidacy for office;

The complaint does not substantiate that Mr. Beale received any financial contributions, made any expenditures of any funds in any way, nor does the complaint substantiate that Mr. Beale reserved any physical space or facility in order to promote his candidacy for office. The complaint is wholly unfounded in regards to this specific section of the RCW definition. Further, nothing shown in the complaint would meet the definition of contribution, as defined by RCW 42.17A.005 (13).

(b) Announces publicly or files for office;

The complaint does not substantiate Mr. Beale announcing himself as a candidate; no portion of any item presented shows announcement or any indication of Mr. Beale's possible candidacy at that time.

(c) Purchases commercial advertising space or broadcast time to promote his or her candidacy; or

The complaint does not demonstrate the use of commercial advertising or broadcast of Mr. Beale being a candidate.

(d) Gives his or her consent to another person to take on behalf of the individual any of the actions in (a) or (c) of this subsection.

The complaint does not substantiate that any third party group or individual did anything on behalf of Mr. Beale in regards to sections (a) or (c) in any way, shape or form

7. We believe this is a personal attack due to our running for the same position as our opponent.

Please let us know if we can answer any more questions.

Chris Beale, AICP

Candidate -
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