

Mr. Blackhorn,

I am responding to your May 2, 2017 e-mail regarding the complaint filed with the PDC by Gretchen McDevitt. You requested a response specifically to allegation No. 4 regarding the alleged uses of City resources in violation of RCW 42.17A.555, which prohibits the use of any city resources for the purpose of assisting a campaign. The City and its departments take compliance with RCW 42.17A.555 very seriously and strive to remain in compliance at all times. The City, nor its Fire Department, has allowed the use of City resources to assist a campaign as alleged by Ms. McDevitt. The individuals in the campaign video are not wearing fire protective gear, both coats and helmets, that belong to the City Fire Department. Nor does the equipment have the words "City of Spokane" or "Spokane Fire Department." The helmets clearly have the wording "Local 29 IAFF." The equipment used in the video was most likely purchased by the individuals as their own personal possession.

I also want to note that the City did not respond to the original e-mail from October 20, 2017 address to Nancy Isserlis because the e-mail most likely was never received or was kicked back to the sender. Ms. Isserlis left city employment and her position as City Attorney on June 30, 2016. Her e-mail account was most likely turned off.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Brian Schaeffer  
City of Spokane, WA Interim Fire Chief