



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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June 9, 2016

Sent electronically to Kelly Hinton "politicalprojects@comcast.net"

Subject: June 6, 2016 Complaint filed against Ann Rivers, PDC Case 5739

Mr. Hinton:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on June 6, 2016. Your complaint alleged that Ann Rivers, an incumbent State Senator and a candidate seeking re-election to that office in 2016, violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 by failing to file Monetary Contribution reports (C-3 report) disclosing monetary contributions received by her campaign since December of 2015.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations in light of PDC laws and rules in order to determine whether a formal investigation or enforcement action is warranted. Staff reviewed your complaint, the Monetary Contributions reports (C-3 reports) filed by the Ann Rivers Campaign, the PDC contribution and expenditure database, an email exchange between Senator Rivers and PDC staff, and a telephone conversation with a representative of a Lobbyist Employer that made a contribution to the Ann Rivers Campaign (Campaign). Based on staff's review, we found that:

- On June 6, 2016, the Campaign filed five C-3 reports disclosing the receipt of \$14,390 in monetary contributions that had been received and deposited between May 23 and June 2, 2016.
- For your information, as an incumbent State Legislator, Senator Rivers was subject to the "Legislative session freeze" provisions found in RCW 42.17A.560 and WAC 390-17-400. The "session freeze" prohibits legislators from soliciting or accepting contributions 30 days before the start of a Legislative session and continuing through to the date the Legislative session is formally adjourned.
- For the 2016 Washington State Legislature, the 2016 Legislative session adjourned on March 10, 2016 and the Special session adjourned on March 29, 2016.
- Senator Rivers stated that her Campaign did not solicit or receive any contributions during the Legislative session freeze which covered the period of mid-December of 2015 through March of 2016. In addition, she stated that her Campaign did not solicit or receive any contributions during the month of April of 2016.

- Staff reviewed the PDC expenditure database for political committee contributions made to the Campaign in 2016, and Monthly Lobbyist Expense reports (L-2 reports) for contributions made by a Lobbyist Employer through its lobbyist during the months of March and April of 2016.
- Staff found one monetary contribution had been made to the Campaign in April of 2016, and that was a \$1,000 contribution from the Associated General Contractors (AGC) and its affiliated political committee, AGC Build PAC on April 6, 2016. Staff contacted a representative from AGC who confirmed that the \$1,000 contribution check made out to the Friends for Ann Rivers was cut on April 6, 2016 by AGC staff, but the check was held and then hand-delivered by two AGC representatives to Senator Rivers on May 17, 2016.

Staff's review of your complaint found that Senator Rivers timely filed the May 2016 C-3 reports on June 6, 2016, four days early. No evidence was found that the Campaign failed to disclose any contributions, and the Campaign timely disclosed the contributions that were listed on the May 2016 C-3 reports.

For these reasons, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into your complaint or pursuing enforcement action in this case. Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention. Staff is continuing to investigate your prior complaints filed against the Ann Rivers Campaign, and we hope to complete our investigation...soon.

If you have questions, you may contact me at (360) 664-8854, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at kurt.young@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,


Kurt Young
PDC Compliance Officer

Endorsed by:


Evelyn Fielding Lopez
Executive Director

cc: Senator Ann Rivers