



**State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908  
(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)

December 18, 2018

Delivered electronically to “[steve.young@ci.kennewick.wa.us](mailto:steve.young@ci.kennewick.wa.us)”

Subject: Complaint filed by Roger Lenk, PDC Case 41265

Dear Steve Young:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Roger Lenk concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Roger Lenk, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking enforcement action in this matter. PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of timely filing a candidate registration in future elections even when making a public declaration that is conditioned on a future occurrence. A C-1 is required within two weeks of becoming a candidate.

If you have questions, you may contact Phil Stutzman at 1-360-664-8853 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Phil Stutzman  
Sr. Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s  
Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavallee  
Executive Director



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December 18, 2018

Delivered electronically to "lenk.roger@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Steve Young, PDC Case 41265

Dear Roger E. Lenk:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on September 21, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Steve Young may have violated RCW 42.17A.205, .220, and .235 by failing to timely register as a candidate seeking re-election to the Kennewick City Council in 2019, and by failing to timely and accurately report contributions and expenditures for his 2019 re-election campaign.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements, and the response provided by Mr. Young to determine whether your allegations support a finding of one or more violations. Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- RCW 42.17A.005(9)(b) states that a candidate is an individual who seeks nomination for election or election to public office, and that such action occurs when a person announces publicly for office. WAC 390-05-200 states that a public declaration of candidacy by an individual, even if conditioned on a future occurrence, gives rise to the presumption that the individual is a candidate.
- On September 4, 2018, Mr. Young stated to a reporter for the Tri City Herald that he intends to seek re-election to his at-large seat but has not made a final decision.
- Mr. Young stated that he was asked by a local Reporter whether or not he was planning to run for his current Kennewick City Council position in the next election. He said it can be difficult to answer a political question in a public setting posed by a reporter without violating an individual's integrity by not being credible or refusing to respond to a question, without violating a PDC requirement.

- After being contacted by the PDC concerning your complaint, Mr. Young filed a Candidate Registration (PDC Form C-1) on November 19, 2018. He selected the Mini Reporting option, meaning that C-3 and C-4 reports are not required.
- Mr. Young does not have previous warnings or violations for failing to timely file a candidate registration.

Based on these findings, staff has determined that in this instance, Steve Young's failure to file a candidate registration within two weeks of making a public declaration of candidacy does not appear to be an actual violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding Mr. Young about the importance of timely filing a candidate registration in future elections even when making a public declaration that is conditioned on a future occurrence.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Phil Stutzman at 1-360-664-8853, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s

Phil Stutzman  
Sr. Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s \_\_\_\_\_

Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director

cc: Steve Young