

Response to PDC complaint

I was recently asked by a local Reporter whether or not I was planning to run for my current Kennewick City Council position in the next election. Apparently my answer violated the PDC REGULATIONS ON DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY. It can be difficult to answer a political question in a public setting posed by a reporter without violating an individuals integrity by not being credible or refusing to respond to a question without violating a PDC requirement.

Although public officials have certain limitations on speech they should not lose their right to the first amendment. The reporter seemed to simply want to know if I had thought about it. Little did I know the statement that "I currently plan to" has caused me to violate the PDC requirements on candidacy.

I have filed my declaration of candidacy with the PDC and updated information as required but worry that the PDC requirements go too far in limiting a citizens rights to free speech.

Thank you

Steve Young