

Larry Seaquist

2 October 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Formal complaint – Rep. Jesse Young’s apparent repeated misuse of public office for campaign

As evident in the attached photos it appears that once again State Rep. Jesse Young (R-Gig Harbor, 26th LD) is using his legislative office for campaign purposes. As you’ll see in the attached photos – taken Saturday, 29 September and today – Mr. Young has placed a large campaign sign on top of the building in which he maintains a legislative office. Note that in addition to a small sign near the building entrance, Mr. Young places two large “sandwich board” signs along the roadways on each side of the building. The result is to conflate Mr. Young’s elected office with his campaign for reelection.

The office building is located at 2801 Hollycroft St. NW, Gig Harbor WA 98335 on a wedge of land between the main arterial road leading into downtown Gig Harbor and the main access to a major shopping center.

I ask that you investigate this complaint immediately. If confirmed to be valid, I ask that your response ensure that the violation ceases immediately. As shown in the photos, the conjunction of the roadside signs advertising his district offices with the prominent campaign sign conveys an improper perception to thousands of passers-by in 4 directions every day.

Additional background information: In December 2016, several weeks after the 2016 election which I lost to Mr. Young, Mr. Young phoned me. Reporting that he was shutting down his office, he said he’d accumulated a number of my campaign signs and asked if I’d like to retrieve them. It was not until days later that we learned from press reports that he was speaking of his official legislative district office at this same address. In response to House ethics violations by Mr. Young the Chief Clerk of the House had removed his authorization both for a Legislative Assistant and for a District Office and ordered the office closed.

It is unknown to me now whether the Gig Harbor office is currently maintained at the Legislature’s expense or Mr. Young’s. In either case, it is clear in retrospect that he was also using his official district office for campaign purposes two years ago.

I look forward to learning of your investigation and disposition.

Thank you,


Larry Seaquist
Former State Rep. 26th LD
CAPT USN (Ret.)

Attached: photos

Rep. Jesse Young District office, Gig Harbor WA 29 September-2 October 2018
2801 Hollycroft St. NW, Gig Harbor WA 98335

