



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: pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdcc.wa.gov

Dec. 28, 2018

Delivered electronically to senatortimsheldon@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Case 42178

Dear Sen. Tim Sheldon:

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

As noted in the letter to Ms. Giachino, the PDC will not conduct a more formal investigation into the complaint or pursue further enforcement action in this case. The PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Alice Fiman at 360-586-4746 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____

Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s _____

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director



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Dec. 28, 2018

Delivered electronically to “sandy.giachino@gmail.com”

Subject: Complaint regarding, PDC Case 42178

Dear Sandra Giachino:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed Oct. 9. concerning Tim Sheldon, an incumbent State Senator in the 35th Legislative District and a candidate seeking re-election to that office in 2018.

The complaint alleged that the 2018 Tim Sheldon Campaign may have violated RCW 42.17A.335(1)(a) by sponsoring a political advertisement in the form of a telephone call that made false statements of material fact about a candidate for public office. Specifically, you alleged that on August 22, 2018, you received a telephone call from an entity identified as Crossings Research, that made false statements about Irene Bowling, a candidate for State Senator in the 35th Legislative District, and Senator Sheldon’s opponent.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, the statutes, rules and reporting requirements, Campaign Summary Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports) filed by the Committee to Elect Tim Sheldon (Campaign), and the responses received from both Tim Sheldon and Tom Hujar with FDR Services, a political consultant who provided Sheldon with Campaign services in 2018. Based on staff’s review, we found the following:

- On September 22, 2015, Tim Sheldon filed a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) declaring his candidacy for re-election to State Senator in the 35th Legislative District, selecting the Full Reporting Option and listing himself as Treasurer and Alex Sheldon as Campaign Manager.
- Staff reviewed the C-4 reports filed by the Campaign and did not find any expenditures made to Crossings Research. In addition, staff conducted a larger query of the database for all filers in 2018 and did not find Crossings Research was listed as a vendor for any candidate or political committee.
- Senator Sheldon stated in his response “I did not sponsor any phone calls to the lady who is complaining. I have never heard of Crossings Research. The firm she mentions has never provided my campaign with any services.”

- Mr. Hujar stated in his response “I can unequivocally state that FDR Services and all of our sub-contractors never used “Crossing Research” for any work in the 2018 campaign cycle. I have never heard of “Crossing Research” and have never used the company in any capacity at any time. To my knowledge, the 2018 Sheldon Campaign never spent any of our campaign resources on persuasion telephone calls nor were we aware of anyone doing this on our behalf.”

No evidence was found that the 2018 Committee to Elect Tim Sheldon sponsored political advertisements in the form of telephone calls, either for polling or in opposition to Irene Bowling using Crossings Research, and the PDC will not conduct a more formal investigation into the complaint or pursue further enforcement action in this case.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Alice Fiman at 360-586-4746 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail fdc@fdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____

Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

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For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director