



**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 • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

January 17, 2019

Delivered electronically to Everett Maroon at “ev4house@gmail.com”

Subject: Complaint filed by Bret Uhrich, PDC Case 42706

Dear Everett Maroon:

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

As noted in the letter to Bret Uhrich, 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 take further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of including sponsor identification and political party preference on political advertisement. PDC staff expects in the future that you will include any required sponsor identification and any required political party preference on political advertisement you sponsor in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

If you have questions, you may contact Jennifer Hansen at 1-360-586-4560 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by email at jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____
Jennifer Hansen
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s _____
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director



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Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdca.wa.gov

January 17, 2019

Delivered electronically to Bret Uhrich at “buhrich@lawschool.gonzaga.edu”

Subject: Complaint regarding Everett Maroon, PDC Case 42706

Dear Bret Uhrich:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on October 24, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Everett Maroon, candidate for State Representative in Legislative District 16, Position 1 in the 2018 election, may have violated RCW 42.17A.320 for failure include sponsor identification and political party preference on political advertisement sponsored by the Campaign.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; and the response provided by Everett Maroon, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff’s review, we found the following:

- On May 21, 2018, Everett Maroon, filed a C-1 (Candidate Registration) declaring candidacy for State Representative in Legislative District 16, Position 1 for the 2018 election and identified his political party preference as “democrat”.
- The complaint included an electronic copy of a text message sent from Erica Munsey, identified, in the message and separately, as Campaign Manager for the Everett Maroon for 16th Legislative District Campaign, asking the text message recipient if they are “planning to be a voter”.
- RCW 42.17A.005(39) defines “political advertising” as mass communication, used for the purpose of appealing, directly or indirectly, for votes or for financial or other support or opposition in any election campaign. In his response, Mr. Maroon stated that the text message referenced above was customized, not a mass communication and was intended to “get out the vote”.
- Everett Maroon was a first-time candidate and does not have previous warnings or violations of PDC requirements.

Although the general definition of political advertisement and “mass communication” includes text messages, it appears that the text messages sent by the Everett Maroon for 16th Legislative District Campaign were not created with this in mind. Mr. Maroon utilized the services of the “Text Out the Vote” messaging service called Hustle, which is connected with the Washington State Democrats, that creates direct political advertising messages and indirect or get out the vote messages for a variety of users.

Based on these findings staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to include sponsor identification and political party preference on political advertisement does not appear to be an actual violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding Everett Maroon about the importance of including any required sponsor identification and any required political party preference on political advertisement in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

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 Jennifer Hansen at 1-360-586-4560 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____
Jennifer Hansen
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s _____
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director

cc: Everett Maroon