



**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

December 17, 2018

Delivered electronically to "louthan4clerk@gmail.com"

Subject: PDC Case 42983

Dear Janice Louthan:

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

As noted below to Jonathan Dilley, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter

If you have questions, you may contact Micaiah Ragins at 1-360-586-4555 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____
Micaiah Ragins
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

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



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December 17, 2018

Delivered electronically to "jscottdilley@outlook.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Janice Louthan, PDC Case 42983

Dear Jonathan Scott Dilley:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on November 2, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Janice Louthan, a first-time candidate seeking the office of County Clerk for Grays Harbor County, may have violated RCW 42.17A.320 for failure to disclose party preference and sponsor identification in radio advertisements.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, the statutes and rules, the response from Janice Louthan, and a letter provided by the General Manager of Jodesha Broadcasting. As a result of staff's review, we found the following:

- On May 23, 2018, Janice Louthan filed a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) declaring her candidacy for County Clerk of Grays Harbor County, selecting the Full Reporting option, and identifying her political party as non-partisan.
- On October 15, 2018, the Campaign filed a Summary Full Contributions and Expenditures Report (C-4 report) disclosing \$1,227.40 for radio advertisements purchased from Jodesha Broadcasting (Report# 100865260).
- RCW 42.17A.320 requires that all radio and television political advertising disclose party preference and the sponsor identification which includes "Paid for by (name, city, state)." The radio ad for the Campaign did not contain this information in the recording provided by the Complainant.
- The Campaign provided a response explaining that the contract that was signed with the KBKW radio station included the party preference and sponsor identification in the

approved script. Janice Louthan stated that she was shocked to discover that the radio ad did not contain the information that was in the script.

- Gabrielle Jordan, the General Manager of Jodesha Broadcasting, provided a letter which explained that the ad did contain the required disclaimer that was approved by Janice Louthan. The letter from Jodesha Broadcasting acknowledged that their production department mistakenly left out the sponsor identification and party preference that was approved by Janice Louthan and that the required disclaimer was supposed to be in the radio ad for the Campaign.

Based on these findings and the following facts, staff has determined that in this instance, the failure to disclose political party preference and sponsor identification does not amount to a material violation warranting further investigation since: (1) Janice Louthan was a first-time candidate for public office in 2018; (2) The Campaign substantially met all other reporting requirements during the previous 12-month period. (3) The broadcasting station that was responsible for the ads acknowledged that the mistake occurred within their production department and not by the Campaign. (4) Janice Louthan is a candidate that lost the election and the radio ads did not materially impact the public interest.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1), and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into your complaint or pursuing further enforcement action in this case.

If you have questions, you may contact Micaiah Ragins at 1-360-586-4555 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____
Micaiah Ragins
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

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

cc: Janice Louthan