

Complaint Description

File a Formal Complaint - Steve Erickson

Fh reported (Sat, 3 Nov at 1:47 PM) via Portal Meta

Tom Sequine's campaign ran ads in newspapers published by Sound Publishing Inc. (see <http://www.whidbeynewstimes.com/print-editions/?iid=i20181026140331206>) According to the PDC website, Sequine's campaign paid a total of more than \$3000 to Sound Publishing for advertising. The ads appeared in both the print and online "green" editions of the newspapers.

The ads do not contain the information required by RCW 42.17A.320. They utterly fail to disclose the sponsor of the ad or the top five contributors. That a candidate for high judicial office is either this negligent or evasive of basic disclosure requirements strongly suggests unfitness for the sought after office and should be made known to the public and subject to a sanction. A fine is particularly warranted because this public has been deprived of the opportunity to know that the candidate for a nonpartisan high judicial office is, in fact, strongly backed by a political party organization. (PDC reporting reveals that Sequine's second largest contributor is a partisan political organization.)

What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?

There is a trend across the country for political parties to attempt to capture judicial offices. The result is erosion of public confidence in the independence of the judiciary. The failure to disclose the sponsors of ads and the top five contributors of a candidate for a nonpartisan high judicial office deprive the public of knowing that the candidate receives and accepts support from a partisan political organization.

List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found.

PDF showing scans and screenshots of ads lacking required disclosure information.

Whidbey News-Times

<https://www.whidbeynewstimes.com/print-editions/?iid=i20181026140331206>

island's Sounder

<https://www.islandssounder.com/print-editions/?iid=i20181029153747500r>

Island's Weekly

<http://www.islandsweekly.com/print-editions/?iid=i20181029153721353>

Journal of the San Juans

<https://www.sanjuanjournal.com/print-editions/?iid=i20181029153805145>

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them.

Steve Erickson

Complaint Certification:

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.