



**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

March 11, 2019

Delivered electronically to Gary Young, Business Manager for IBEW 48 at
“busmgr@ibew48.com”

Subject: Complaint filed by Cheryl Aichele, PDC Case 44063

Dear Mr. Young:

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

As noted in the letter to Ms. Aichele, 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.

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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March 11, 2019

Delivered electronically to Cheryl Aichele at “cheryltrenee143@gmail.com”

Subject: Complaint regarding Southwest WA Electricians PAC 48 of WA, PDC Case 44063

Dear Ms. Aichele:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on December 12, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Southwest WA Electricians PAC 48 of WA (PAC 48), a registered political committee, may have violated RCW 42.17A.405 for making over-limit contributions to two candidate campaigns and RCW 42.17.460 for failure to report contributions earmarked for the same two candidates.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by IBEW 48 Business Manager & Financial Secretary on behalf of PAC 48; the applicable C-3 and C-4 reports filed by Respondent; and queried the Respondent’s data in the PDC contribution and expenditure database, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- In calendar year 2018, Southwest WA Electricians PAC of WA (PAC 48), was a continuing political committee registered under the “Full Reporting” option.
- The complaint alleged that PAC 48 made earmarked contributions to the Clark County Democratic Central Committee (CCDCC) that CCDCC gave to two legislative candidates after PAC 48 had previously made direct contributions to the same candidates and therefore exceeded the allowable contribution limits.
- RCW 42.17A.460 states that “earmarked” means a designation, instruction, or encumbrance, whether direct or indirect, expressed or implied, or oral or written, that is intended to result in or does result in all or any part of a contribution being made to a certain candidate or state official.
- Staff’s review of contributions made by PAC 48 during 2018, found that the 2018 Elect Tanisha Harris State Representative campaign received a contribution of \$1,000 attributed to the primary on May 20, 2018 and a \$1,000 for the general election on

November 1, 2018. The 2018 Elect Monica Stonier State Representative campaign received two contributions of \$1,000 each attributed to the primary and general election on May 8, 2018. Staff found that PAC 48 made three contributions totaling \$5,600 to CCDCC in August and October 2018.

- During the 2018 election, CCDCC was eligible to give \$0.50 per Registered Voter per cycle, or \$42,600 combined total with 17th Legislative District Democrats to the 2018 Harris campaign and \$42,062.50 to the 2018 Stonier campaign. CCDCC made two general election contributions totaling \$7,500 to the Harris campaign on October 15 and October 27, 2018 and one \$2,000 general election contribution to the Stonier campaign November 1, 2018.
- In his response, Mr. Young stated that PAC 48 had no control over how or when CCDCC chose to spend their funds, that CCDCC expends contributions received independently and at no point was there an agreement between the parties on how contributions would be dispensed. He stated that the funds given by PAC 48 to CCDCC “*were donated with the expectation that CCDCC would expend those funds entirely as the organization saw fit at a time when there were several important races relevant to Clark County.*”

No evidence was found that PAC 48 made over-limit contributions to either of the 2018 candidate campaigns referenced above or to indicate that that funds received by CCDCC were earmarked as defined in RCW 42.17A.460 by PAC 48 or were otherwise specifically intended to benefit any of the same candidates.

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: Southwest WA Electricians PAC 48 of WA

