

Complaint Description

[Glen Morgan](#) reported an issue (Thu, 3 Jan 2019 at 2:13 AM)

To Whom it May Concern --

It has come to my attention, once again, that the Pierce County Democratic Central Committee (hereafter collectively referred to as “respondent”) has habitually and willfully committed frequent and multiple violations of **RCW 42.17A**. Additionally, I have reason to believe that other violations of this chapter have occurred beyond what I have identified below.

Please note, these violations are particularly troubling because the Pierce County Democratic Central Committee recently settled a lawsuit in a civil action brought by the Washington State Attorney General against the Pierce County Democrats last year (see settlement – **Thurston County Court Case # 17-2-04616-34 attached dated October 27, 2017**). The Pierce County Democrats are still in the critical probationary four year period covered by that settlement (see part 2a,b of the attached settlement agreement) and have clearly violated the terms of that settlement by failing to file timely an updated CIPC report. According to the terms of this settlement, if the PDC confirms these violations to be accurate (and they are), then the Pierce County Democratic Central Committee will have 30 days to pay the suspended portion of the settlement fine which is \$15, 890.

While I have already detailed other violations of the statute in my PDC Complaint filed on October 23, 2018 (**PDC Case #42704**), this additional violation is just surprisingly sloppy and willful.

1) Failure to file accurate, timely CIPC (Violation of RCW 42.17A.205(4))

State law requires that a new CIPC must be filed within 10 days:

“Any material change in information previously submitted in a statement of organization shall be reported to the commission within the ten days following the change.”

As the attached screen capture from the Pierce County Democrats Facebook page clearly shows, the Pierce County Democratic Central Committee elected new officers and announced them December 9, 2018. We are now well past the 10 day required reporting deadline, and the committee has clearly broken the law.

The PDC should investigate the possibility that the respondent committed the above violations maliciously, which would be a class C felony per **RCW 42.17A.750 (2)(c)**. If the PDC

determines that is the case, they should refer the case to the Attorney General's office for criminal prosecution immediately.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information.

Best Regards,

Glen Morgan

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

The public has a right to know who is running these political committees in a timely manner, and not have that information concealed from them in the official documents.

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

FB screenshot dated December 9, 2018
Pierce County Democrats settlement with AG

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them.

All new officers
All previously listed officers

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.

1 EXPEDITE
2 No Hearing Set
3 Hearing is Set
4 Date:
5 Time:

FILED

001 27 2017

Superior Court
Linda Myers Enlow
Thurston County Clerk

EX PARTE

7 STATE OF WASHINGTON
8 THURSTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

9 STATE OF WASHINGTON,
10 Plaintiff,
11 v.
12 PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC
13 CENTRAL COMMITTEE, a Washington
14 registered political committee,
15 Defendant.

NO. 17-2-04616-34

STIPULATION AND AGREED
JUDGMENT

15 JUDGMENT SUMMARY (RCW 4.64.030)

- 16 A. JUDGMENT CREDITOR: Plaintiff, STATE OF WASHINGTON
17 B. JUDGMENT DEBTOR: PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL
18 COMMITTEE, a Washington registered political
19 committee
20 C. PRINCIPAL JUDGMENT: \$31,780 with \$15,890 suspended for a period of 4 years
21 contingent on no findings of violations of RCW 42.17A
22 committed during the period of suspension
23 D. INTEREST: No prejudgment interest is owed. Principal judgment
24 amount(s) due and owing shall not bear interest unless
25 the principal judgment is unpaid by the due date specified
26 herein
E. COSTS AND FEES: \$5,000 in attorney fees; \$1,500 in investigation costs,
and \$240 in court costs
F. ATTORNEYS FOR JUDGMENT CREDITOR ROBERT W. FERGUSON, Attorney General
LINDA A. DALTON, WSBA No. 15467
Senior Assistant Attorney General

STIPULATION AND AGREED
JUDGMENT

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON
Campaign Finance Unit
PO Box 40100
Olympia, WA 98504-0100
(360) 753-6200

COPY

1 G. ATTORNEY FOR EVELYN FIELDING LOPEZ, WSBA No. 18900
2 JUDGMENT DEBTOR LOPEZ LAW PLLC

3 STIPULATION

4 The parties to this stipulation, Plaintiff, STATE OF WASHINGTON (STATE), and the
5 Defendant, PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, a Washington
6 registered political committee, desiring to resolve all claims arising out of the State's
7 complaint, hereby enter into the following stipulation:

8 1. Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE agrees to pay
9 the State within 30 days of the date of entry of this Judgment an assessed civil penalty in
10 the amount of \$31,780 with one-half suspended for four years, for its violations of RCW
11 42.17A for failing to timely disclose contribution and expenditure reports for election years
12 2015, 2016, and through the date of this agreement for 2017.

13 2. The parties agree that \$15,890 of the assessed civil penalty will be suspended based on the
14 following terms and conditions:

15 a. The suspension will be in effect for four years from the date of execution of the
16 Judgment. During the period of suspension, Defendant PIERCE COUNTY
17 DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE agrees that it will not violate any
18 provision of RCW 42.17A.

19 b. In the event Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL
20 COMMITTEE is found by the Public Disclosure Commission or a court to have
21 committed a violation of RCW 42.17A during the suspension period, the suspended
22 penalty of \$15,890 will immediately become due and payable within 30 days of
23 such finding without further intervention of the Court.

24 c. If Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE is not
25 found to have committed violations of RCW 42.17A by the Public Disclosure
26

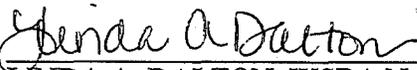
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Commission or a court for conduct during the suspension period, then the suspended portion of the penalty will be set aside.

- 3. Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE agrees to pay the State the total amount of \$5,000.00 as attorney fees, \$240 in court costs, and \$1,500 in investigation costs in this action.
- 4. Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE agrees to pay the State the unsuspended portion of the civil penalty (\$15,890) and fees and costs (\$6,740) in installments of \$3,000 on January 1 and July 1 each year starting in 2018 until paid in full. Failure to timely make any installment will result in the remainder of the unpaid portion to be due within 30 days of the missed installment.

DATED this 25th day of October, 2017.

ROBERT W. FERGUSON
Attorney General


LINDA A. DALTON, WSBA No. 15467
Senior Assistant Attorney General
Attorneys for Plaintiff

LOPEZ LAW PLLC


EVELYN FIELDING LOPEZ, WSBA No. 18900
Attorney for Defendant

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JUDGMENT

THIS MATTER came on regularly before the undersigned judge of the above-entitled Court. Plaintiff, STATE OF WASHINGTON (STATE), appearing through its attorneys of record, ROBERT W. FERGUSON, Attorney General and LINDA A. DALTON, Senior Assistant Attorney General, and Defendant, PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE appearing through its attorney, EVELYN FIELDING LOPEZ, apprised the Court of their agreement to the entry of this judgment for the purpose of settling and compromising this action brought under RCW 42.17A. The Court, having reviewed the records and files herein, and having found the settlement to be a just and proper resolution of this matter, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, it is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

1. Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE is hereby assessed a civil penalty, under the provisions of RCW 42.17A, in the amount of \$31,780 payable to the State of Washington.
2. The amount of \$15,890 of the assessed penalty is hereby suspended upon Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE's compliance with the following court-ordered conditions:
 - a. The suspension will be in effect for four years from the date of execution of the Judgment. During the period of suspension, Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE agrees that it will not violate any provision of RCW 42.17A.
 - b. In the event Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE is found by the Public Disclosure Commission or a court to have committed a violation of RCW 42.17A during the suspension period, the suspended penalty of \$15,890 will immediately become due and payable within 30 days of such finding without further intervention of the Court.

1 c. If Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE is not
2 found to have committed violations of RCW 42.17A by the Public Disclosure
3 Commission or a court for conduct during the suspension period, then the suspended
4 portion of the penalty will be set aside.

5 3. Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE shall pay to the
6 State of Washington the amount of \$5,000.00 as attorney fees, \$240 in court costs, and
7 \$1,500 in costs of investigation as authorized under RCW 42.17A.765.

8 4. Defendant PIERCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE shall pay the
9 State the unsuspended portion of the civil penalty (\$15,890) and fees and costs (\$6,740) in
10 installments of \$3,000 each on January 1 and July 1 each year starting on January 1, 2018
11 until paid in full. Failure to timely make any installment shall result in the remainder of the
12 unpaid portion to be due within 30 days of the missed installment.

13 DONE IN OPEN COURT this 27 day of October, 2017, **CHRISTOPHER LANESE**

14
15 _____
JUDGE CHRIS LANESE

16 Presented by:

17 ROBERT W. FERGUSON
18 Attorney General

19 Linda A Dalton
LINDA A. DALTON, WSBA No. 15467
20 Senior Assistant Attorney General
Attorneys for Plaintiff

21 Approved as to Form:

22 Evelyn Fielding Lopez
23 EVELYN FIELDING LOPEZ, WSBA No. 18900
Lopez Law PLLC
24 Attorney for Defendant
25
26

STIPULATION AND AGREED
JUDGMENT

Announcements



Kathy Orlando

December 9, 2018 at 3:01 PM

Your new PCDCC Officers

Chair - Kathy Orlando

Vice Chair - Eric Herde

State Committee - Cassandra Brown and David Torrey

Treasurer - Rick Offner

Ass't Treasurer/Membership - [Kim Lopez](#)

Secretary - Diane Sandrowski

Sergeant At Arms - [Treyvon Dunbar](#)



52

7 Comments 3 Shares



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