

Complaint Description

Glen Morgan reported an issue (Mon, 28 Jan 2019 at 4:31 PM)

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that Senator Kevin Ranker from the 40th Legislative District has violated RCW 42.17A.700 & RCW 42.17A.710 by failing to disclose significant corporate assets and financial partnerships on his Financial Affairs forms (F1) as required by law for 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

While Senator Ranker has failed to disclose other assets on his Financial Affairs statements in this past, this complaint addresses his failure to report his partnership with Christian Sinderman in Coast Policy Group, LLC. A copy of the corporate registration obtained from Washington's Secretary of State website clearly indicates this corporation was formed by Senator Ranker and well-known Seattle political consultant Christian Sinderman from 2014 – 2017, at which point it was administratively dissolved.

The name of this corporation is similar to Senator Ranker's consulting business which he has disclosed on his financial affairs form (but for which he received approval by the commission to conceal the identity of his customers). However, the organization identified on the Secretary of State's website has a different corporate structure, a different registered agent, and is a partnership with Christian Sinderman as clearly indicated in the attached document.

Senator Ranker's failure to disclose this corporation on his financial affairs forms during these years is particularly disturbing considering the inevitable political nature of this organization. His partnership with one of Washington State's most high-profile political consultant in this corporation is certainly worthy of transparency and clearly requires Senator Ranker's public disclosure consistent with RCW 42.17A.700 and RCW 42.17A.710. It is unclear why Senator Ranker chose to hide his financial and corporate interests in this organization, but it merits disclosure at this time.

For the record, this is the second F1 violation I have discovered in Senator Ranker's filings without even looking very closely. It appears likely, and almost certain that Senator Ranker has failed to disclose additional assets to the public for many years now.

Feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Best Regards,

Glen Morgan

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

In this case, Ranker's corporate interests and partnership with a leading political consultant from Seattle has been hidden from the public. The public has a right to know when their elected officials are creating for-profit organizations like this and with whom they are partnering to possibly influence public policy or profit from the public policy changes which Senator Ranker was making while in Olympia.

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

Copy of Secretary of State's corporate document for secret and unreported for-profit corporation formed by Senator Kevin Ranker in partnership with Christian Sinderman, which was not reported for 4 years on Senator Ranker's public disclosure documents.

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them.

Christian Sinderman (partner in secret for-profit corporation)
SEL Inc (the registered agent for the corporation)

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.