



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.pdca.wa.gov

September 14, 2018

Delivered electronically to "jerryccooper@comcast.net"

Subject: PDC Case 39967

Dear Jerry Cooper:

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

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

PDC staff are reminding you about the importance of the timely disclosure of all contribution and expenditure activities, including the filing fee, and the timely filings of all future PDC reports. The current use of the scooters for campaign activities is not a violation of RCW 42.17A.445.

PDC staff have an expectation that your campaign will dispose of the scooters by the end of the election using one or more of the ways that are permitted by RCW 42.17A.430. PDC Staff are informing you that the disbursement of surplus funds is reported as an expenditure on Schedule A to the C-4 report. According to WAC 390-16-221, these disposal options also apply to the disposal of items purchased by the campaign. When campaign assets are disposed of, your campaign must attach an explanation to the C-4 report which would include the date, item description, the name of the recipient for the assets, and the fair market value of the items.

If you have questions about how to disclose the disposal of the scooters or need help filing reports, please contact our Filer Assistance Staff by submitting a help ticket through our [web portal](#). If you have other questions relating to this case, you may contact Micaiah Ragins 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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September 14, 2018

Delivered electronically to “balesweb@gmail.com”

Subject: Complaint regarding Jerry C Cooper, PDC Case 39967

Dear Carol Bales:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its initial review of the complaint you filed on August 15, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Jerry C Cooper may have violated RCW 42.17A.445 for unauthorized use of campaign funds for personal expenditures or contributions.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, and as a result of staff’s initial review, we found the following:

- On July 17, 2018, the Jerry Cooper campaign filed the 21-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report disclosing \$3,139.67 in contributions and \$5,209.84 in expenditures, covering the period from July 1st, 2018 to July 16, 2018 (Report# 100844965). The expenditures in the C-4 report included yard signs, parade donations, scooter helmets, and two scooter purchases for \$880.95 per scooter.
- On August 4, 2018, the Campaign filed the 7-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report disclosing \$1,312.78 in contributions and \$1,312.78 in expenditures covering the period from July 17, 2018 to July 30, 2018 (Report# 100850290). PDC Staff has verified that the 7-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report was filed four days late and included an additional scooter purchase for \$880.95.
- Jerry Cooper provided a response which indicated that the scooters were purchased due to a lack of rental availability in the local area and because the purchasing of the scooters was more cost effective than renting scooters from out-of-state. He provided photo evidence to show that each scooter was fitted with a mast that carries a campaign sign and explained that the scooters are for use in parades and around town as part of the campaign's activities. Cooper also emphasized that a violation of personal use involving the scooters has not occurred because the campaign is still active.

Based on these initial findings, staff has determined that in this instance, there is no evidence to support a finding of a material violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff are reminding Jerry Cooper about the importance of the timely disclosure of all contribution and expenditure activities, including the filing fee, and the timely filings of all future PDC reports. The current use of the scooters for campaign activities is not a violation of RCW 42.17A.445. PDC staff have an expectation that the Jerry Cooper campaign will dispose of the scooters by the end of the election using one or more of the ways that are permitted by RCW 42.17A.430. PDC Staff are informing Jerry Cooper that the disbursement of surplus funds is reported as an expenditure on Schedule A to the C-4 report. According to WAC 390-16-221, these disposal options also apply to the disposal of items purchased by the campaign. When campaign assets are disposed of, the Campaign must attach an explanation to the C-4 report which would include the date, item description, the name of the recipient for the assets, and the fair market value of the items.

The PDC has closed the matter, 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 micaiah.ragins@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____
Micaiah Ragins
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

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

cc: Jerry C Cooper