



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In the Matter of Enforcement Action
Against

Adam Renn, City of SeaTac Firefighter

Respondent.

PDC Case No. 13-033

Notice of Administrative Charges
(Brief Enforcement Hearing)

I. JURISDICTION

1. The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to Chapter 42.17A RCW, the state campaign finance and disclosure laws; Chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC. These charges incorporate the Report of Investigation and all related exhibits by reference.

II. ALLEGATIONS

2. PDC staff alleges that Adam Renn, a City of SeaTac Firefighter, violated RCW 42.17.130 by using facilities of the City of SeaTac to assist the 2009 campaigns of candidates for SeaTac City Council, and the 2010 campaigns of candidates for the state legislature.

III. FACTS

3. Adam Renn is a City of SeaTac firefighter and Political Action Leader for IAFF 2919.
4. In 2009, three SeaTac City Council positions were up for election. Five candidates filed a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) for the three positions, as follows:
 - a. Jonathan Standridge and Rick Forschler for position #2;
 - b. Tony Anderson for position #4; and
 - c. Barry Ladenburg and Pamela Fernald for position #6.

5. On January 12, 2009, Mr. Renn used his City of SeaTac email account to send an email to John Gallup, Captain of the City of SeaTac Fire Department, and President of the SeaTac local firefighters union (IAFF Local 2919), discussing a draft Political Action Plan for 2009 that mentioned, in part, candidates for public office, and discussed potential campaign-related plans for calendar year 2009 activities. Although the draft Political Action Plan did not identify specific candidates, it was clearly written for the purpose of assisting city council candidates, and included: (1) Identify which council members/candidates are unsupportive of the Fire Department and discuss upcoming elections with potential fire friendly candidates; (2) Begin election campaign for any possible candidates, including: fundraisers; leaflets; identify and recruit assistants and campaign directors; gather information on target audience-registered voters; gather population demographics; obtain help from political parties; (3) Continue planning, recruiting, reviewing, and fund raising for campaigns; (4) Publicly endorse candidates; begin sign building; find volunteers within IAFF 2919 to assist in campaign; continue planning, recruiting, reviewing, and fund raising for campaigns; (5) Assist campaign with doorbelling, signs, letters to newspaper; and (6) Continue to assist campaign with doorbelling, signs, letters to newspaper; After elections held, hold a party and reward with T-shirt/coffee mug, etc. for members who assisted in elections.
6. On August 31, 2009, as part of a pattern with John Gallup of sending and receiving emails to assist the 2009 campaigns of candidates for SeaTac City Council, Mr. Renn used his City of SeaTac email account to send an email to Mr. Gallup that included an attached flyer about a SeaTac City Council candidate forum hosted by IAFF Local 2919. The event was scheduled for September 17, 2009 but was changed to September 23, 2009.
7. On May 22, 2010, Mr. Gallup, using his personal email account, sent an email to Mr. Renn at Mr. Renn's City of SeaTac email account concerning upcoming campaign kick-off events for the three incumbent democratic legislators from the 33rd legislative district. He informed Mr. Renn about the dates, times and locations for the campaign kickoffs of Senator Karen Keiser, Representative Tina Orwell, and Representative Dave Upthegrove.

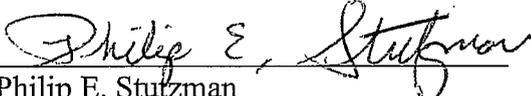
Mr. Gallup said, *“Adam, Karen May 25 5pm to 7pm angle lake park; Tina June 3 630 to 8pm at her house...; Dave June 6 430 to 630 pm at Kent Historical Museum...”* On May 22, 2010, Mr. Renn replied, using his City of SeaTac email account, saying, *“I talked with Dave and he may need a bit of help setting up the 6th. I also left messages with Tina and Karen.”* On Sunday, May 23, 2010, Mr. Gallup replied, *“Sounds good. I will go on the 3rd. Let me know if you can pick me up at 46 on the 25th. I don’t want to take the Tahoe to the park.”* Later, on May 23, 2010, Mr. Renn replied, *“I’ll pick you up at 5:00 pm. Brian already gave me the checks...”*

IV. LAW

RCW 42.17.130 prohibited elected officials, their employees, and persons appointed to or employed by a public office or agency from using or authorizing the use of public facilities, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of assisting a candidate’s campaign or for the promotion of, or opposition to, any ballot proposition. This prohibition does not apply to activities that are part of the normal and regular conduct of the office or agency. Effective January 1, 2012, RCW 42.17.130 is now codified at RCW 42.17A.555.

WAC 390-05-273 states, in part: “Normal and regular conduct of a public office or agency, as that term is used in the proviso to RCW 42.17.130, means conduct which is (1) lawful, i.e., specifically authorized, either expressly or by necessary implication, in an appropriate enactment, and (2) usual, i.e., not effected or authorized in or by some extraordinary means or manner.”

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 17th day of June, 2013.


Philip E. Stutzman
Director of Compliance