



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.pdcc.wa.gov

August 10, 2015

davidkappler@hotmail.com

DAVID KAPPLER
255 SE ANDREWS ST
ISSAQUAH WA 98027

Subject: Complaint filed against Klahanie PAA Annexation to Issaquah Committee, PDC Case No. 15-049

Dear Mr. Kappler:

On March 12, 2015, Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff informed you that a formal investigation had been opened concerning the complaint you filed on February 12, 2014, against Klahanie PAA Annexation to Issaquah Committee (Klahanie PAA), a local ballot measure committee supporting the annexation of the Klahanie area into the City of Issaquah. In your complaint, you alleged Klahanie PAA violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 by failing to disclose orders placed, debts, or obligations for three political advertisements on the 7-day pre-election Campaign Summary Contributions and Expenditures report (C-4 report).

Your complaint was considered in light of the following statutes:

RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 requires political committees under the full reporting option to file frequent, timely, and accurate reports of contribution and expenditure activities, including orders placed, debts and obligations.

PDC staff reviewed your complaint, the campaign finance reports filed by Klahanie PAA, and staff's communications with Michael Foss, treasurer for Klahanie PAA. As a result of our review, we found the following:

- On August 19, 2013, Klahanie PAA filed a Committee Registration (C-1pc report) disclosing that the committee was formed to support the February 11, 2014, ballot measure that, if approved, would annex Klahanie into the City of Issaquah.
- Klahanie PAA was a first-time committee that selected the Full Reporting option. Michael Foss, treasurer for Klahanie PAA, was a first-time treasurer.
- Klahanie PAA disclosed receiving \$8,072 in contributions and making \$7,969 in expenditures on timely filed C-3 and C-4 reports.

- Klahanie PAA disclosed making a \$4,500 expenditure to Winpower Strategies, its political consultant, on its February 12, 2014 Post-election C-4 report, for three mailings. All three mail pieces were required to be disclosed by Klahanie PAA as an order placed on its 7-day pre-election C-4 report, due February 4, 2014.
- On February 16, 2014, Klahanie PAA filed a C-3 report disclosing the receipt of a \$4,500 contribution from IAFF Local 2878 (Issaquah Firefighters Association) on February 10, 2014, one day before the election. The contribution was disclosed after the election, and was used to pay Winpower Strategies for the three mailings.

On March 13, 2015, one day after the PDC opened a formal investigation of your complaint, staff received an email from you stating that you were withdrawing your complaint because the annexation issue concerning Klahanie was settled with the February 11, 2014 election, and you no longer considered it an issue needing investigation.

After you withdrew your complaint, staff discontinued its investigation of Klahanie PAA. However, staff noted that Klahanie PAA failed to comply with certain reporting requirements concerning orders placed, debts and obligations, and the timely disclosure of three mailings. The three mailings clearly listed Klahanie PAA as the sponsor, but were disclosed after the election. Finally, you stated that the annexation matter has been resolved with the Klahanie neighborhood becoming part of the City of Sammamish, making it unlikely that Klahanie PAA will be a political committee in the future.

Based on the facts noted above, and the withdrawal of your complaint, it does not appear that further enforcement is warranted in this instance. Therefore, I am dismissing your complaint against Klahanie PAA with the concurrence of the Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission.

If you have questions, please contact Kurt Young, Compliance Officer, at (360) 664-8854 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at kurt.youn@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Frederick C. Kiga
Executive Director

cc: Michael Foss, Treasurer, Klahanie PAA Annexation to Issaquah Committee