

August 13, 2018

Naomi Evans

PO Box 6003

Bremerton, WA 98312

Public Disclosure Commission

Attn: Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator

PO Box 40908

Olympia, WA 98504-0908

Dear Tabatha Blacksmith,

This letter is my official response to PDC complaint case number 38589.

-Allegation: Alleged violation of RCW 42.17A.235 for failure to report distribution of campaign-related image in July 2018 newsletter as an in-kind contribution from ARC of the Peninsulas.

After reviewing the complaint as submitted by Mr. Robert Parker, and was sent to me via email from the PDC, I would respectfully deny the allegations that I failed to report an in-kind contribution for the distribution of a campaign related image with the following explanation.

I am employed by The Arc of the Peninsulas as the Parent 2 Parent Coordinator. One of my job requirements is to write a monthly newsletter "blurb" specifically for that program. I submit the "blurb" via email to another Arc employee who is responsible for putting together the finished product. Aside from writing the "blurb" for my program, I am not in any way responsible for or involved in its final production or dissemination.

Unfortunately, this last July 2018 Arc newsletter was created using a picture of mine that was taken without my permission or knowledge from my campaign Facebook page as is shown in the complaint. I was not aware of this unauthorized use of my private intellectual property until some time after the Arc newsletter was disseminated via email and have since asked the Arc for an explanation of this unauthorized use of my property which I am attaching for reference.

I am not aware of any monetary value for the unauthorized dissemination of my picture that was used, and therefore did not report its use as an in-kind contribution.

Respectfully submitted this 13th day of August 2018.

Naomi Evans



Memo

TO: Whom it may concern

FROM: Kim Bushnell, Associate Executive Director/COO

Date: 7/30/2018

Re: The Arc's electronic newsletter

The Arc of the Peninsulas maintains a monthly newsletter for the purposes of communicating with our community and sharing information about the current state of developmental disabilities within our county, state and at a national level. The newsletter contains various sections and contributed columns, including a monthly column from our Parent-to-Parent program.

Regrettably this past July's newsletter included an image of an employee wearing a campaign t-shirt who is also currently running for public office. Our Newsletter team included the unauthorized campaign photo within the Parent-to-Parent section of our newsletter. The employee who is also a candidate for public office did not approve the use of the image for the newsletter and was not consulted prior to the newsletter being submitted to the public.

We sincerely apologize for any confusion or misunderstandings this incident may have caused for our community. Management has reviewed this incident with all staff and underscored that The Arc of the Peninsulas is a 501(c)(3) organization, and as such, does not endorse nor recommend any political candidates or organizations.

About The Arc of the Peninsulas

The Arc of the Peninsulas serves all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the lifespan: from prenatal diagnosis through end of life care. Our programs include: Information and Family Support for parents, guardians, and siblings; Counselling Services; Life Long Learning Programs for adults in the community; Community Guides to help individuals accomplish specific life goals; and Advocacy for self-advocates, family members, and community allies seeking to make our community more systemically equitable for all people.