



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](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdcc.wa.gov](http://www.pdcc.wa.gov)**

August 30, 2018

Delivered electronically to Kathleen O'Toole at "Kmo870@aol.com"

Subject: Kathleen O'Toole Complaint Return Cover Letter with Reminder, PDC Case 3722

Ms. O'Toole:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Glen Morgan concerning the complaint he filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) against you. As noted below in the electronic letter to Mr. Morgan, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff has determined that in this instance, there is no evidence that you used the facilities of the City of Seattle to support a ballot proposition or to fundraise for a ballot proposition. Thus, the PDC has closed this matter.

If you have questions, please contact PDC staff member Kurt Young by e-mail at [kurt.young@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:kurt.young@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Kurt Young, Compliance Officer

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Sandahl, Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavalley, Executive Director





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August 30, 2018

Sent electronically to Glen Morgan at "glen@wethegoverned.com"

Subject: Complaint filed against Seattle Police Chief Kathleen O'Toole, PDC Case 37225

Mr. Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on June 22, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Kathleen O'Toole, former City of Seattle Police Chief, may have violated RCW 42.17A.555 by using the public facilities of the City of Seattle, including her official police uniform as Chief of Police to support a statewide initiative in Washington State, Initiative 1639.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations listed in your complaint, the statutes, rules and PDC Interpretation #04-02 Guidelines for Local Government Agencies in Election Campaigns, and the July 23, 2018, response letter from Ms. O'Toole, and the August 20, 2018, email from Rebecca Boatright, Chief Legal Officer for the Seattle Police Department. As a result, we found the following:

- Kathleen O'Toole served as Chief of Police for the City of Seattle from June of 2014 through December 31, 2017. Chief O'Toole stated that as Police Chief for the City of Seattle, her duties and responsibilities, and the normal and regular conduct of the Chief's office is "to speak publicly...on matters relating to public safety."
- As part of your complaint, you attached a copy of a screen shot for an undated photograph, apparently copied from the Alliance for Gun Responsibility (AGR) website featuring Chief O'Toole speaking at an AGR rally surrounded by approximately 20 people on a stage. Behind Chief O'Toole in the photograph was a huge AGR banner that stated "Gun Violence is Preventable." However, there is no mention or reference to any ballot proposition in the photograph for the undated screen shot you provided, including support for I-1639.
- PDC staff's review found that AGR was registered with the PDC as a grassroots lobbying organization, and filed monthly Grassroots Lobbying Expense reports (L-6 reports) for February and March of 2018. AGR is not currently registered with the PDC as a political committee, and AGR has not been registered with the PDC as a ballot measure committee since 2016, when they supported Initiative 1491.
- In addition to the L-6 reports filed in 2018, AGR's Foundation also made a \$50,000 monetary contribution to the Safe Schools Safe Communities, a political in support of I-1639, and also filed a number of Independent Expenditure. AGR filed a number of Independent Expenditure reports (C-6 reports) in 2017 in support of Legislative candidates.

- Chief O'Toole stated that her attendance at the AGR event was "limited to exactly that: speaking as to the impact gun violence had on our community. At no point did I comment on any initiative, take a position on an initiative, or seek contributions on behalf of an initiative." She stated the AGR event was one of many appearances in her official capacity as Chief of Police, and that she "arrived late, and departed immediately after delivering my comments.
- Finally, Chief O'Toole stated "As is normal, regular, and customary of the office of Chief of Police when speaking publicly on such matters...I presented my comments in my uniform partially paid for by funds that were included in my salaried position."

Based on these findings, staff has determined that in this instance, there is no evidence that Kathleen O'Toole used the facilities of the City of Seattle to support a ballot proposition or to fundraise for a ballot proposition. 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 Kurt Young by e-mail at [kurt.young@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:kurt.young@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

/s\_\_\_\_\_

Kurt Young  
PDC Compliance Officer

/s\_\_\_\_\_

Barbara Sandahl, Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: Kathleen O'Toole

