



**State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908

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Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdca.wa.gov](http://www.pdca.wa.gov)

March 19, 2019

Delivered electronically to "ryankcooper@gmail.com"

Subject: PDC Case 36563

Dear Ryan Cooper:

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

As noted below to Roger Lenk, 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 and accurate filing of the Candidate Registration (C-1 report) and Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report), which are both required to be filed in jurisdictions with 5,000 or more registered voters; in addition to the timely filings of all future PDC reports.

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 [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Micaiah Ragins  
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

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



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March 19, 2019

Delivered electronically to "lenk.rogier@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Ryan Cooper, PDC Case 36563

Dear Roger Lenk:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on June 3, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Ryan Cooper, a candidate seeking the office of State Senator in the 8th Legislative District, may have violated RCW 42.17A.205 and RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to timely and accurately file the Candidate Registration Report (C-1 report) and Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) within two weeks of declaring candidacy for the 2018 election campaign.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by Ryan Cooper; and the applicable PDC reports filed by the Campaign, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- On June 8, 2018, Ryan Cooper filed a Candidate Registration (C-1 report), declaring his candidacy for State Senator in the 8<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, and selecting the Mini Reporting option. Ryan Cooper lost the August 7, 2018 Primary Election with 1,615 votes (5.1%).
- On June 18, 2018, Ryan Cooper filed a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report), disclosing financial activities for the previous 12 months.
- Ryan Cooper provided a response which stated: "I was unaware that I had to file again, as I had an open campaign committee from 2016. Because I filed for a different position, I went ahead and setup my new committee with mini-reporting. When asked by the PDC official, I was told that I had completed all of the online filing. I was unaware of the F-1 filing. Once I got the complaint, I went ahead and did that paperwork."
- PDC records indicate that Ryan Cooper filed as a candidate for public office for a jurisdiction with 5,000 or more registered voters. Candidates in such jurisdictions are required to file both the C-1 and F-1 report within two weeks of declaring candidacy or no later than June 1, 2018.
- Ryan Cooper filed both the C-1 and F-1 reports after receiving the complaint, but prior to PDC staff mailing warning letters on July 16, 2018 for delinquent filers and prior to the Brief Enforcement Hearing held on September 24, 2018

Based on these findings and the following facts, staff has determined that in this instance, the failure to timely and accurately file C-1 and F-1 reports does not amount to a material violation warranting further investigation since: (1) Ryan Cooper filed both the C-1 and F-1 reports prior to Brief Adjudicative Proceedings for the 2018 Group Enforcement candidates; (2) The Campaign was inexperienced with the campaign finance reporting requirements and quickly filed the required reports upon notification of the complaint; (3) Ryan Cooper lost the 2018 Primary Election with only 5% of the vote and the reports of the Campaign under the Mini Reporting option did not materially impact the public interest.

PDC staff is reminding Ryan Cooper about the importance of the timely and accurate filing of the Candidate Registration (C-1 report) and Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report), which are both required to be filed in jurisdictions with 5,000 or more registered voters; in addition to the timely filings of all future PDC reports.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) 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 [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Micaiah Ragins  
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director  
cc: Ryan Cooper