

File a Formal Complaint - Mary D. Brown

[Browng](#) reported (Fri, 20 Apr at 10:21 PM) via Portal [Meta](#)
Public Disclosure Commission:

Responsible Taxation of Citizens is a ballot committee formed to oppose the bond measure for Peninsula School District 41 for the election of April 24, 2018. It is filed under a Mini-reporting status.

On April 16, 2018, residents received a mailer (file attached) opposing the bond measure. The sponsor notice reads "Paid for by Pierce County Republican Party". Above the sponsorship notice appears www.ResponsibleTaxation.org, the official website of Responsible Taxation of Citizens.

On April 19, 2018, I inspected the books of the RTC, presented by the Treasurer of Record, Ken Manning. I was prohibited from taking pictures, but I did take extemporaneous notes, and a copy is attached.

The books contained a list of in-kind contributions. The last contribution recorded was for \$400. on 4/09 from Nancy Gibson of Gig Harbor for "Mailer Design". When queried about the rest of the mailer expenses, the Treasurer of Record stated to me "they were shipped off to someone else".

The rest of the expenses for the mailer appear on a C-6 form filed erroneously as an Independent Expenditure by the Pierce County Republican Party and total \$2,579.65. The mailer was not produced independently, but with a design, including text, pictures and message supplied by the RTC to the Pierce County Republican Party, showing cooperation and consultation between the two committees. The expenditures totaling \$2,579.65 should be reported as an in-kind contribution to Responsible Taxation of Citizens for the production and mailing of its mass communication piece.

As a Mini-reporting filer, the RTC has exceeded its per-contribution limit of \$500. Since its total contributions as of 4/15 were recorded as \$2450., it has also exceeded its \$5,000. aggregate limit, violations of WAC 390-16-125.

In addition, the RTC, by failing to record in its books the in-kind contribution provided by the Pierce County Republican Party, is in violation of RCW 42.17A.235.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary D. Brown