

August 6, 2018

TO: PDC Staff
Compliance and Enforcement Division

FROM: Kitsap County Democratic Women

RE: Case 34593

Regarding this case, we reviewed our files and have the following responses.

Allegation 1 – Failure to file accurate, timely C3 and C4 reports, failure to timely deposit contributions. (Violation of RCW 42.17A.235,.220)
Exhibit A –Illegally Late filed C3 and C4 reports

Items 1 & 2

The Treasurer had computer problems which delayed her ability to access data and thus delayed her ability to file on time. This also caused her to have to file an amended return on 10/24/2017 (item #1). We are unaware of any RCW which sets a date for amending a C4. We assume when a mistake is found, the amended C4 should be filed as soon as possible, which is what we did.

Items 3 & 4

The Treasurer had gone on vacation and the Deputy Treasurer misunderstood her directions, thus resulting in a late C4 filing and the consequent amended C4 filing on 8/9/2017. Again, the amended form was filed as soon as the mistake was found which we believe is the actual due date.

Items 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9

Prior to the 6/13/2016 C4 filings, we had been using mini reporting as we initially did not expect to be accumulating more than \$5000. In May 2016 we thought it was possible that we might accumulate more than \$5000 for the year – so we decided to convert to full reporting, receiving the filing code in June 2016. In the interest of transparency, the Treasurer retroactively filed reports for the months prior to June. This was not a requirement and therefore these filings were not late.

Item 10

This concerned a payment made via our website. Our IT person had not set up the system to ensure the Treasurer was aware of this payment when it happened. (That has been corrected.) Once the Treasurer was aware of this payment, she filed a C3.

Items 11 & 12

The Treasurer was unaware of the special requirements for filing a C3 weekly during the period from July 1 to Election Day.

Items 13, 14, 15, & 16

These filings happened prior to the special requirement for filing a C3 weekly.

Item 17

This appears to be an error on our part.

Items 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, & 30

As with items 5 – 9, these filings were made in the interest of being totally transparent.

Regarding Allegations 2 – 8

In general, these seem more like boiler plate allegations being made regarding all organizations for which complaints have been filed since no specific data was provided. However, taking them one by one...

Allegation 2 – Failure to report last minute contributions.
(Violation of RCW 42.17A.265)

We are-unaware of any such violation.

Allegation 3 – Failure to list committee officers, timely file/update C-1/C-1PC.
(Violation of RCW 42.17A.205, see WAC 390-05-245)

We need more information.

Allegation 4 – Illegal unauthorized expenditure of funds by an individual not listed as an officer on form C-1/C1-pc. (Violation of RCW 42.17A.425)

No expenditures are made or have been made on our behalf without the authorization of the officers.

Allegation 5 – Failure to preserve books of account, bills, receipts, and all other financial records of the campaign or political committee for not less than five calendar years following the year during which the transaction occurred.
(Violation of RCW 42.17A.235 (6))

We maintain our records per PDC requirements. At no time has anyone asked to review them.

Allegation 6 – Illegal depositing of campaign funds into bank account by person other than the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer. (Violation of RCW 42.17A.220 (1))

Only authorized people have deposited money into our bank account-

Allegation 7 – Failure to include sponsor ID (Violation of RCW 42.17A.320)

We need more specific information-

Allegation 8 – Failure to timely file C6 reporting independent expenditure.
(Violation of RCW 42.17A.255 (2))

We need more specific information.

While we take these complaints seriously, we feel that any violations we may have committed fall into the category of frivolous or minor and hope you agree. Please, let us know if you need any more information.

Sincerely,

Jo Fox Burr, President
Veronica Falkner, Treasurer
Ginger Sommerhauser, Deputy Treasurer.