

## 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: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

**Executive Director** 



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November 8, 2018

Delivered electronically to "glen@wethegoverned.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Senator Steve Hobbs, PDC Case 33371

Dear Glen Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its initial review of the complaint you filed on March 26, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Senator Steve Hobbs may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 by failing to properly break down expenditures for election campaigns.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations and, as a result of staff's initial review, found the following:

- Details concerning printed items, robo calls, media buys and similar expenditures (e.g. quantity, dates) were not consistently specified in the C-4 reports filed by Mr. Hobbs during the 2014 and 2018 campaigns.
- Within 24 hours of receiving the complaint, the Respondent took corrective action and amended 15 reports to improve expenditure descriptions.
- Respondent made a good faith effort to comply with requirements but disclosed incomplete information on original C-4 reports, which are technical violations under WAC 390-37-061. Technical violations merit an alternative response to formal investigation.

Based on the initial findings, staff has determined that, in this instance, incomplete expenditure details that were quickly corrected once they were brought to the Respondent's attention do not amount to a violation warranting further investigation.

Senator Steve Hobbs made minor or ministerial errors on required reports, which did not materially impact the public interest. Upon notification of these errors, Senator Steve Hobbs timely amended their reports, making the necessary technical corrections.

The PDC has dismissed this 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 Tabatha Blacksmith at 1-360-586-8929, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov">pdc@pdc.wa.gov</a>

Sincerely,
/s
Tabatha Blacksmith
Compliance Coordinator
Endorsed by, /s
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director

cc: Senator Steve Hobbs