



**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 • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

March 23, 2018

Delivered electronically to "gatorded@gmail.com"

Subject: PDC Case 26873

Dear Dorothy Knauss:

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

As noted below to Amelia Schwiebert, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter. PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of the complete and timely disclosure of identifying information to the voters. PDC staff expects that you will properly disclose sponsor ID in the future.

If you have questions, you may contact Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at fox.blackhorn@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____
Fox Blackhorn
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s _____
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director



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March 23, 2018

Delivered electronically to "aeschwiebert@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Dorothy Knauss, PDC Case 26873

Dear Amelia Schwiebert:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its initial review of the complaint you filed on October 27, 2017. Your complaint alleged that Dorothy Knauss may have violated RCW 42.17A.320 for failure to include Sponsor ID on political advertising.

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

- Dorothy Knauss mailed written political advertising to support her 2017 candidacy for Chewelah Mayor, which failed to include "paid for by" or "sponsored by" with the sponsor's name and address, "*on the first page or fold of the written advertisement or communication in at least ten-point type.*" RCW 42.17A.320(3)(a).
- Dorothy Knauss acknowledged and took responsibility for the mistake arising from a good-faith error or omission. Though the lack of disclosure deprived the voters of knowledge in a time-sensitive period, the impact of the non-disclosure was small. WAC 390-37-061.
- Dorothy Knauss has no prior found violations of PDC laws or rules.

Based on these initial findings, staff has determined that in this instance, failure to properly disclose sponsor ID on political advertising does not amount to a material violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding Dorothy Knauss about the importance of the complete and timely disclosure of identifying information to the voters. PDC staff expects that Dorothy Knauss will properly disclose sponsor ID in the future.

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 Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at fox.blackhorn@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s_____
Fox Blackhorn
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s_____
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director

cc: Dorothy Knauss