



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.pdca.wa.gov

May 8, 2018

Delivered electronically to Kristen Bryant at “kristenbry@gmail.com”

Subject: Save Black Diamond (2) Complaint Return Cover Letter, PDC Case 24849

Ms. Bryant:

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

As noted below in the electronic letter to Ms. Taylor, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking enforcement action in this matter.

If you have questions, please contact PDC staff member Kurt Young by e-mail at kurt.young@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____
Kurt Young
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

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



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May 8, 2018

Sent electronically to Robbin Taylor at "xltxyz@hotmail.com"

Subject: Complaint filed against Save Black Diamond (2), PDC Case 24849

Ms. Taylor:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on July 12, 2017. Your complaint alleged that a decline to sign effort was being undertaken in the City of Black Diamond, concerning the recall efforts for Patricia Pepper, Mayor of Black Diamond, and that no political committee had registered with the PDC disclosing the expenditures related to those efforts, in violation of RCW 42.17A.

Specifically, you named Save Black Diamond and Kristen Bryant in the complaint you filed, alleging that a flyer had been hand-delivered to homes in Black Diamond, two separate decline to sign recall yard signs had been placed around the City of Black Diamond, and a website was established, concerning the recall efforts for Mayor Pepper, without those expenditures being disclosed to the PDC. PDC staff reviewed allegations in your complaint, and as a result we found the following:

- As part of your complaint, you attached photographs of the two yard signs which stated: (1) "Decline to Sign www.BogusRecall.com Don't Recall Council Elect a New Mayor"; and (2) "www.BogusRecall.com Mayor and Big Developers Don't Want City Council Oversight Decline to Sign"
- Ms. Bryant stated in May of 2017, she was one of the people involved in producing and distributing the flyer with the decline to sign message and it included the contact information for Save Black Diamond. She stated the flyer "explained certain facts in the recall attempt and encouraged people not to sign a recall petition." She stated the petition was not hand-delivered to every household as alleged in the complaint, "but was delivered to approximately 700 households."
- Ms. Bryant stated the flyers were hand-delivered by volunteers door to door, and that the total cost to produce the flyer was less than \$100. She stated the flyer was printed in black and white by a volunteer using his printer, and that the cost of paper, which was approximately \$22 for 250 sheets of paper, was the primary expense.
- Ms. Bryant stated the complaint mentions yard signs and a website, but that neither her nor Save Black Diamond created the yard signs or the website referenced in the complaint.

- She stated the phrase "Decline to Sign" is not original to Black Diamond or the flyer created by Save Black Diamond, and that Save Black Diamond did not use that phrase "for anything more than the flyer. She stated that Save Black Diamond did not spend any "other funds on the political action of the current Recall in Black Diamond."
- Ms. Bryant stated that the other people mentioned in the complaint have been active in Black Diamond issues, and were part of the larger "save black diamond network". She stated the individuals "were not involved in the flyer mentioned, and did not even know about its creation or delivery. She stated that the individuals "were are not Officers of Save Black Diamond and never have been."

While PDC staff was not able to ascertain who paid for the yard signs or website, Ms. Pepper was recalled as is no longer in office. 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 Kurt Young by e-mail at kurt.young@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

/s _____
Kurt Young, Compliance Officer

/s _____
Barbara Sandahl, Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: Kristen Bryant, Save Black Diamond

