



# Smith & Dietrich Law Offices

## South Sound Community Lawyers

Smith & Dietrich  
Law Offices PLLC

September 1, 2017

*Via Electronic Delivery*

Members  
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Steve Dietrich

Bob Ferguson, Attorney General

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Jon Tunheim, Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney

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Re: *Citizen Action Notice Against State Representative David Taylor*

Dear Attorney General Ferguson and County Prosecuting Attorneys Tunheim and Brusic,

I write to notify you that there is good reason to believe violations of chapter 42.17A RCW, Washington State's campaign finance law, have been committed by State Representative David Taylor and the Committee to Elect David Taylor, a political committee (the "Respondents"), between 2015 and the present. Please note that, as provided by RCW 42.17A.765(4), if you do not initiate an action against the Respondents within the applicable statutory notice periods for this Citizen Action Notice, I intend to satisfy any applicable notice requirements and proceed with an action in the name of the State. This message is being sent to each of you at the e-mail address you have provided to the Washington State Bar Association to ensure you receive notification of these allegations as required by RCW 42.17A.765(4).

This notice details three apparent violations of various provisions of Washington's campaign finance law by the Respondents, which took place during their campaign to elect Mr. Taylor to the Washington House of Representatives for the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislative District in 2016. The cumulative days late for the apparently untimely reporting included in this notice is 476 days as of today. The Respondents have apparently violated chapter 42.17A RCW as follows:

**A. Failure to timely file and/or amend Public Disclosure Commission form C-3 report ("Cash Receipts Monetary Contributions") (1 Violation)**

The Respondents filed a significantly late report of contributions received in October 2015. Form C-3 filed on February 28, 2017 (number 100750116)—well after the primary and general elections in which Rep. Taylor campaigned—disclosed \$3,850 in contributions deposited into his campaign account on October 21, 2015. This conduct violated the law requiring timely reporting. RCW 42.17A.235, .240. The report was due November 10, 2015, and was filed 476 days late.

**B. Personal use of candidate's authorized committee funds (Two violations)**

By law, a candidate may not make personal use of funds raised for campaign purposes except under certain narrow circumstances. RCW 42.17A.445. Gifts to charity are not permitted from authorized committee funds although they may be made using surplus funds. RCW 42.17A.430(4). On September 27, 2016, the Respondents reported making a prohibited donation of \$800 in committee funds from the Committee to Elect David Taylor to Life Choices (apparently a 501(c)(3) non-profit, which may be a "Christian life-affirming ministry providing medical pregnancy testing and educational services to women in the Wenatchee Valley"<sup>1</sup>). In an apparently related expenditure, Respondents reimbursed Mr. Taylor \$400, apparently for attending a Life Choices banquet after the 2016 general election was over (payment of \$400 dated 11/20/16). This apparently was not a permissible campaign expenditure because campaign funds were used for the donation, violating the prohibitions on personal use of campaign funds and gifts to charity from the active campaign's account.

I await your position as to whether there is reasonable cause for a civil enforcement action based on these allegations, and whether you will file such an action in the name of the State.

Sincerely,



Walter M. Smith

Enclosure: Secretary of State detail for Life Choices of Wenatchee Valley

cc: Linda A. Dalton, Senior Counsel, Attorney General's Office (via e-mail)  
Public Disclosure Commission staff (via e-mail)

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.lifechoiceswenatchee.org/>; see also <http://irregulartimes.com/2013/10/05/what-kind-of-an-organization-is-life-choices-does-it-belong-in-your-public-school/>.

**LIFE CHOICES OF WENATCHEE VALLEY**

UBI Number	601819691
Category	REG
Profit/Nonprofit	Nonprofit
Active/Inactive	Active
State Of Incorporation	WA
WA Filing Date	09/06/1983
Expiration Date	09/30/2017
Duration	Perpetual
Charity	This corporation is also a charity. <a href="http://www.sos.wa.gov/charities/search_detail.aspx?charity_id=21183">View Info &gt; (http://www.sos.wa.gov/charities/search_detail.aspx?charity_id=21183)</a>
<b>Registered Agent Information</b>	
Agent Name	LIFE CHOICES OF WENATCHEE VALLEY
Address	504 ORONDO AVE
City	WENATCHEE
State	WA
ZIP	988012830

**Governing Persons (as defined in RCW 23.95.105 (12) (<http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/supdefault.aspx?cite=23.95.105>))**

Title	Name
Governor	BRUNNER, JAY
Governor	CHASE, CRAIG
Governor	STURN, JANICE