



**State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

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April 26, 2019

Delivered electronically to Glen Morgan at glen@wethegoverned.com

Subject: Complaint regarding Eric Newman, PDC Case 47381

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on February 14, 2019. Your complaint alleged that Eric Newman, a first-time candidate for Superior Court Judge for King County Superior Court in 2016, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 by failing to timely and accurately file C-3 and C-4 reports and RCW 42.17A.240, WAC 390-16-037 and WAC 390-16-205 by failing to properly report the purpose of expenditures.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the C-3 and C-4 reports filed by the Committee to Elect Newman for Judge (Campaign); and the response provided by the Campaign.

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- On November 24, 2015, Eric Newman timely filed a C-1 report declaring his candidacy for Superior Court Judge in King County in 2016 and selected the Full Reporting Option.

Allegation One: Failure to timely file C-3 and C-4 reports.

- PDC staff reviewed the three alleged late C-4 reports you included in your complaint. Staff found that all three alleged late-filed C-4 reports were amendments that were originally filed timely.
- In its response to this allegation, the Campaign, by way of Eric Newman, stated, "the three reports referenced as being untimely-filed were amendments. The original reports were filed on time. The information provided in the original reports was the best information at the time, and when better information became available, amendments were filed."

Allegation Two: Failure to properly report the purpose of the expenditures.

- Staff reviewed the description of the payments/expenditures made by the Campaign, including the in-kind contribution of \$482.24 for "yard sign/stakes," received from Mathew Williams on August 20, 2016. Staff found that most of the expenses lacked proper description(s) or additional information as required by law/rule. For example, on June 17, 2016 and October 26, 2016, the Campaign spent \$348.17 on "T-shirts" and \$1,260.00 for "doorbells," respectively. The number of items purchased by the Campaign for both items was not included. A

more detailed description that includes the number of items purchased should have been included in the report by the Campaign.

Staff noted that there were expenditures made by the Campaign either to a vendor or consultant for which a more detailed explanation or description should have been provided. However, this shortcoming is mitigated by the fact that Eric Newman has no prior violations.

Based on these findings staff has determined that, in this instance, the Campaign's failure to properly and accurately describe the purpose of expenditures, does not amount to an actual material violation warranting further investigation.

However, staff is reminding the Campaign about the importance of properly reporting the purpose of the expenditures, as required by RCW 42.17A.240, WAC 390-16-037 and WAC 390-16-205.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Erick Agina at 360-586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at erick.agina@pdc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

s/ _____
Erick Agina, Compliance Officer

s/ _____
BG Sandahl, Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee, Executive Director

cc: Eric Newman

