



## 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](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)**

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In RE COMPLIANCE WITH  
RCW 42.17 and RCW 42.17A

Our Olympic Communities Enterprise  
Washington Jobs PAC

Respondent.

PDC Case 47998

Report of Investigation

#### **I.**

#### **Background. Complaint and Allegations**

- 1.1 Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC (Committee) is a political committee affiliated with Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC, registered with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) and has been filing committee campaign finance reports since April 2016.
- 1.2 Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC has been registered with the PDC as a political committee since 2008.
- 1.3 On April 28, 2016, the Committee filed a Political Committee Registration (C-lpc report) as a continuing political committee, selecting the Full Reporting Option and listing Sonja Forster as Campaign Manager, Gary Strannigan as Treasurer, Michele Willms as Compliance Officer and Patti Case as Committee Officer.
- 1.4 On October 17, 2017, the Committee filed an amended C-lpc report as a continuing political committee, selecting the Full Reporting Option and listing Jeffrey D Harvey as President, Gary Strannigan as Treasurer, Patti Case as Committee Officer and Janette Roberts as Financial Controller.
- 1.5 On March 2, 2018, the Committee filed an amended C-lpc report with the PDC indicating it was a continuing political committee, selecting the Full Reporting Option and listing Jeffrey D. Harvey as President, Jon Devaney as Chairman/Committee Officer, and Gary Strannigan as Treasurer and Janette Roberts as Financial Controller. The C-1pc report also disclosed that the Committee was directed, sponsored, and affiliated with Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC.

- 1.6 On October 7, 2018, the Committee filed an amended C-lpc report with the PDC indicating it was a continuing political committee, selecting the Full Reporting Option and listing Jeffrey D. Harvey as President, Jon Devaney as Chairman/Committee Officer, and Gary Strannigan as Treasurer. There was no listed Financial Controller. The C-1pc report also disclosed that the Committee was directed, sponsored, and affiliated with Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC.
- 1.7 For the 2018 election, Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC was registered with the PDC as a continuing political committee, filing Monetary Contributions reports (C-3 reports) and Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports) that disclosed \$1,780,193 in total contributions received and \$1,758,615 in total expenditures made.
- 1.8 There were also six other political committees sponsored, directed, and affiliated with Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC during 2018 election cycle, and all committees shared the same Committee Officers. Those committees included Citizens for Progress, Citizens for Working Courts, North Cascade Jobs, People For Jobs, South Sound Future PAC and Southwest Communities First. The overwhelming majority of the \$1,758,615 in expenditures made by Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC in 2018 were contributions/transfers to affiliated committees.
- 1.9 On February 28, 2019, Jeanne Martin filed a complaint with the PDC regarding mailers sent to voters in the 35<sup>th</sup> Legislative District during the 2018 election. (NOTE: Martin had challenges with the PDC online complaint submission process. She first contacted the PDC on Feb. 25, 2019 noting her difficulties). The allegations were the Committee violated: (1) RCW 42.17A.320 by failing to fully identify Top Five Contributors on political advertising; (2) RCW 42.17A.335 by making a false statement of material fact about Candidate Bowling in opposition ads; RCW 42.17A.335 by sponsoring an ad that falsely represents Irene Bowling as an incumbent ("headphones" opposition ad); (3) RCW 42.17A.255, .260 or .305 for failing to disclose on Independent Expenditure Reports (C-6 reports) the costs of independent expenditure or electioneering communication advertising in support of Tim Sheldon and in opposition to Irene Bowling (<http://timsheldonforwa.com>); (4) RCW 42.17A.240 for failing to fully report expenditures for mailers distributed in 2018 general election; and (5) RCW 42.17A.320 and WAC 390-18 by positioning required disclosures upside-down & using a light-colored font (e.g. Tim Sheldon "veteran" support ad, Irene Bowling "headphones" opposition ad). Ms. Martin also attached the mailers in question as part of her complaint.  
**Exhibit #1**
- 1.10 The Committee's initial response received April 3, 2019 by the PDC from Dan Brady, legal counsel for Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC. **Exhibit #2**
- 1.11 Senator Sheldon was re-elected to the office of State Senator in 2018, receiving 52.03 percent of the vote.

## II. Investigative Findings

- 2.1 Political committees that selected the Full Reporting option, and participated in the 2018 primary and general elections by either making or receiving contributions, or making independent expenditures or electioneering communications to support or oppose candidates, were required to file the following reports in calendar year 2018:
- Monetary contributions must be deposited into the committee bank account within five business days of receipt, and the Committee is required to file one C-3 report for each bank deposit. Monthly C-3 reports are due to be filed by the 10th of each month disclosing contributions received and deposited during the previous calendar month, and weekly C-3 reports are required to be filed every Monday beginning June 1 through November 5, 2018, for contributions received and deposited the previous five business days.
  - Monthly C-4 reports are required to be filed for the periods January 1 through May 31, 2018 December 1 through 31, 2018, and are due by the 10th of the month if \$200 in contributions has been received or \$200 in expenditures have been made since the last C-4 report was filed.
  - A 21-day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report was required on July 17, 2018, covering the period June 1 through July 16, 2018; and a 7-day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report was required on July 31, 2018, covering the period July 17 through July 30, 2018.
  - Special reports are required July 31 – August 6, 2018 and October 16 – November 5, 2018 if the committee makes or receives contributions of \$1,000 or more from one source.
  - A Post-Primary Election C-4 report was required by September 10, 2018, covering the period July 31 through August 31, 2018.
  - A 21-day Pre-General Election C-4 report was required on October 16, 2018, covering the period September 1 through October 15, 2018; and a 7-day Pre-General Election C-4 report was required on October 30, 2018, covering the period October 16 through October 29, 2018.
  - A Post-General Election C-4 report was required by December 10, 2018, covering the period October 30 through November 30, 2018.
- 2.2 For 2018, political committees making independent expenditures or electioneering communications were required to file C-6 reports, and the C-6 report included three different categories of reporting that included the following:
- Box #1 of the C-6 report - Independent Expenditures of \$100 or more (RCW 42.17A.255): A political committee registered with the PDC and filing C-3 and C-4

reports is exempt from filing C-6 reports disclosing independent expenditures that meet this statutory definition.

- Box #2 of the C-6 report - Independent Expenditure Political Advertising of \$1,000 or more within 21-Days of an election (RCW 42.17A.260): A political committee is required to file a C-6 report within twenty-four hours after the date it first publishes, mails, or otherwise presents political advertising in the form of independent expenditures valued at \$1,000 or more to the public, within 21 days of an election.
- Box #3 of the C-6 report – Electioneering Communications Advertising of \$1,000 or more within 60-Days of an election (RCW 42.17A.305): A political committee is required to file a C-6 report within twenty-four hours after the date it first publishes, mails, or otherwise presents political advertising in the form of an electioneering communication valued at \$1,000 or more to the public, within 60 days of an election, that features or mentions a candidate for public office.

- 2.3 On March 12, 2018, the Committee filed its initial C-4 report for the 2018 election, disclosing \$1,811.40 in committee funds carried forward from the end of calendar year 2017, with no new contribution or expenditure activities disclosed on the report.
- 2.4 The Committee initially timely filed all C-4 reports for the 2018 election. On April 12, May 10, June 11, and July 17, 2018, each C-4 report disclosed zero contribution and expenditure activities. In its post-primary C-4 report, initially filed September 10, 2018, the Committee listed \$88,195.37 in total expenditures. In its post-general C-4 report, initially filed December 10, 2018, the Committee listed \$503,311.40 in total expenditures.
- 2.5 The Committee timely filed all required C-3 reports for the 2018 election, disclosing the receipt of \$503,311.40 in monetary contributions between July 17 and November 13, 2018. The C-3 reports disclosed that Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC was the Committee's largest contributor for the 2018 election (\$304,500), followed by the Washington Association of Realtors PAC (\$135,000), South Sound Future PAC (\$32,000) and Washington Hospitality Association PAC (\$20,000).

#### **Failure to timely file C-6 reports – support Sheldon and oppose Bowling**

- 2.6 RCW 42.17A.305 requires Electioneering Communications advertisements to have all of the following four characteristics (1) the communication clearly identifies at least one candidate for state, local or judicial office; (2) the communication appears within 60 days of an election in the candidate's jurisdiction; (3) the communication appears in one or more of the following media – radio, television, postal mailing, billboard, newspaper or periodical; and (4) the communication either alone, or in combination with other communications by the sponsor identifying the candidate, has a fair market value of \$1,000 or more. In addition, electioneering communications must be reported electronically within 24 hours of, or on the first working day after, the date the communication was first broadcast, mailed, erected, or published.



2.7 In the 2018 election, the Committee filed C-6 reports disclosing the following:

- i. Opposed: Emily Randall (26<sup>th</sup> District – Senate), Irene Bowling (35<sup>th</sup> District - Senate), Lisa Callan (5<sup>th</sup> District - House), and Claire Wilson (30<sup>th</sup> District - Senate)
- ii. Supported: Marty McClendon (26<sup>th</sup> District - Senate), Tim Sheldon (35<sup>th</sup> District - Senate), Paul Graves (5<sup>th</sup> District - House) and James Walsh (19<sup>th</sup> District - House).

Candidates – opposed	Amount	Won/Lost
Emily Randall – Senate 26 <sup>th</sup>	\$249,381.60	won
Irene Bowling – Senate 35 <sup>th</sup>	\$36,720.43	lost
Lisa Callan – House 5 <sup>th</sup>	\$22,707.24	won
Claire Wilson – Senate 30 <sup>th</sup>	\$12,712.20	won
Candidates – supported		
Marty McClendon – Senate 26 <sup>th</sup>	\$70,226.51	lost
Tim Sheldon – Senate 35 <sup>th</sup>	\$117,952.38	won
Paul Graves – House 5 <sup>th</sup>	\$5,676.81	lost
James Walsh – House 19 <sup>th</sup>	\$22,500	won

2.8 The allegations listed in the complaint focused on the 2018 Legislative race for the 35<sup>th</sup> District State Senate seat between incumbent Senator Tim Sheldon (Sheldon) and Irene Bowling (Bowling). The two campaigns filed C-3 and C-4 reports with the PDC disclosing that Irene Bowling’s campaign made expenditures totaling \$157,180.14 and Tim Sheldon’s campaign made expenditures totaling \$290,100.25.

2.9 Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington spent \$151,422.81 in Independent Expenditures in support of Sheldon and opposition to Bowling.

2.10 The Committee’s \$117,952.38 spending in support of Sheldon (with the exclusion of \$17,000) was reported in response to the complaint, with most of the spending being disclosed between April 3 and May 5, 2019, well after the November 2018 general election.

2.11 The Committee’s expenditures made in opposition to Bowling were reported October 22, 2018, prior to the general election, and on April 3, 2019, after the general election.

Sponsor Name	Total Spent	Date Presented to Public	C-6 Report Due Date	C-6 Report Date Filed	Days Late	Expenditure Details
Our Olympic Communities PAC	\$17,861	10/18/2018	10/19/2018	4/3/2019	166	Direct Mail-Oppose Irene Bowling
Our Olympic Communities PAC	\$8,585	10/22/2018	10/23/2018	4/3/2019	162	Direct Mail-Support Tim Sheldon

Our Olympic Communities PAC	\$8,800	10/24/2018	10/25/2018	4/3/2019	160	Direct Mail-Support Tim Sheldon
Our Olympic Communities PAC	\$9,605	10/26/2018	10/29/2018	4/3/2019	156	Direct Mail-Oppose Irene Bowling
Our Olympic Communities PAC	\$8,323	10/30/2018	10/31/2018	4/3/2019	154	Direct Mail-Support Tim Sheldon
Our Olympic Communities PAC	\$13,395	11/1/2018	11/2/2018	4/3/2019	152	Direct Mail-Support Tim Sheldon
Our Olympic Communities PAC	\$9,100	11/2/2018	11/5/2018	4/3/2019	149	Direct Mail-Support Sheldon
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$75,669</b>				<b>149-166</b>	

#### Failure to disclose expenditure details on C-4 reports

- 2.12 RCW 42.17A.240 requires continuing political committees under the Full Reporting option to accurately file C-4 reports disclosing detailed contribution and expenditure information including the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure of more than \$50 was made in the aggregate, the amount, date, and a detailed description or purpose of each expenditure, and the total sum of all expenditures.
- 2.13 In addition, PDC rules and reporting requirements require political committees to identify all candidates supported or opposed by each expenditure, to provide the purpose of each expenditure and the goods or services purchased by the expenditure.
- 2.14 As noted above, the Committee timely filed all of its C-4 reports filed during the 2018 election, however some of those C-4 reports, especially the 21-Day and 7-Day Pre-Election C-4 reports that are required to be filed close to the election failed to disclose the required detail in accordance with RCW 42.17A.240.
- 2.15 While the C-4 reports did disclose some expenditure details including the vendors used was provided for example for Direct Mail, Postage and Digital Media Ad, however in most cases the C-4 reports failed to disclose the candidates supported or opposed, the number of items mailed or produced, and dates the advertisements were presented to the public.
- 2.16 On May 3, 2019, the Committee filed amended C-4 reports for the 2018 primary (pre and post) and general election (pre and post) disclosing adding additional expenditure detail to include the candidates supported or opposed, number of items mailed, run dates for advertising and dates items were presented to the public. The information filed on those amended C-4 reports was disclosed between 185 and 290 days late and 178 days after the 2018 General Election.

### **Response from the Committee**

- 2.17 Due to additional information provided by the complainant, PDC staff provided the Committee additional time to provide its response. The Committee's initial response was received April 3, 2019 by the PDC from Dan Brady, legal counsel for Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC. Regarding the alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.225, .240, .260 and .305, the response stated:

The Committee reviewed its public disclosure filings for this race and has filed additional C-6 reports to ensure full disclosure. The online ad referred to on Page 3 Section 2 of the Complainant's email of March 9, 2019 is part of C-6 #8746.

- 2.18 On April 22, 2019, PDC staff requested the Committee file amended C-4 reports to provide the required expenditure details on its C-4 reports filed for the 2018 election. As noted above, the Committee filed these amended reports on May 3, 2019.
- 2.19 During its investigation, it was found additional Committees supported by Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC also did not comply with required reporting and filing obligations. On May 8, 2019, the PDC requested Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC file required reports and/or amendments to bring all its sponsored committees into compliance by May 31, 2019.
- 2.20 On June 4, 2019, in response to the PDC request to bring all 2018 Election Year Committees controlled by Enterprise Washington into compliance, Brady responded via email "[a]ll necessary new and/or amended filings were completed last week per your request."

### **III. Scope**

- 3.1 PDC staff reviewed the following:

- The complaint and exhibits filed by Jeanne Martin.
- Telephone conversations and email communications with Dan Brady, on behalf of Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC.
- C-1pc, C-3, C-4 and C-6 reports filed Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC covering the 2018 primary and general election.
- The PDC database for Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC contribution and expenditure information covering the 2018 election cycle.
- The PDC database for contribution and expenditure information, C-1pc, C-3, C-4 and C-6 reports for all committees affiliated with Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC.

3.2 Chronology of PDC staffs attempted contacts with the Committee concerning the complaint:

- Email with attached complaint sent to janette@enterprisewashington.org, the Committee email address listed on its current C1-pc, on March 6, 2019. (No response received).
- Email with attached complaint sent to dan@danbradylaw.com and dawgperry@gmail.com on March 6, 2019. Complaint response received April 3, 2019.
- Email requesting C-4 report updates sent to dan@danbradylaw.com and dawgperry@gmail.com on April 22, 2019.
- Response received May 4, 2019 indicating amendments made.
- Email requesting all committee affiliated with Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC be brought into compliance sent to dan@danbradylaw.com and dawgperry@gmail.com on May 8, 2019.
- Response received June 4, 2019 indicating request completed.

**IV.**  
**Statutes**

- 4.1 **RCW 42.17A.005(19)** "Electioneering communication" means any broadcast television or radio transmission, US Postal Service mailing, billboard, newspaper, or periodical that clearly identifies a candidate for a state, local, or judicial office (by name or identifying the candidate without using his/her name, and is broadcast, transmitted, mailed, or published within sixty days before any election, and has a fair market value of one thousand dollars or more per candidate.
- 4.2 **RCW 42.17A.255** states in part that within five days after the date of making an independent expenditure that equals one hundred dollars or more, or within five days after the date of making an independent expenditure, the person who made the independent expenditure shall file a report of all independent expenditures made during the campaign prior to and including such date.
- 4.3 **RCW 42.17A.260** states in part that "the sponsor of political advertising who, within twenty-one days of an election, publishes, mails, or otherwise presents to the public political advertising supporting or opposing a candidate or ballot proposition that qualifies as an independent expenditure with a fair market value of one thousand dollars or more shall deliver, either electronically or in written form, a special report to the commission within twenty-four hours of, or on the first working day after, the date the political advertising is first published, mailed, or otherwise presented to the public."
- 4.4 **RCW 42.17A.305** requires that the sponsor of an electioneering communication shall report to the commission within twenty-four hours of, or on the first working day after, the date the electioneering communication is broadcast, transmitted, mailed, erected,

distributed, or otherwise published, and include: (a) Name and address of the sponsor; (b) Source of funds for the communication, (c) Name and address of the person to whom an electioneering communication related expenditure was made; (d) A detailed description of each expenditure of more than one hundred dollars; (e) The date the expenditure was made and the date the electioneering communication was first broadcast, transmitted, mailed, erected, distributed, or otherwise published; (f) The amount of the expenditure; and (g) The name of each candidate clearly identified in the electioneering communication, the office being sought by each candidate, and the amount of the expenditure attributable to each candidate.

Respectfully submitted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020.

Electronically signed: Alice Fiman  
PDC Compliance Officer

**List of Exhibits**

- Exhibit #1** Complaint filed February 28, 2019 by Jeanne Martin regarding mailers sent to voters in the 35th Legislative District during the 2018 election.
- Exhibit #2** Response received April 3, 2019 from Dan Brady, legal counsel for Enterprise Washington Jobs PAC.

# Exhibit 1

**TEXT FOR PDC VIOLATION FORM (I tried to submit this the third time on 2/28/19)**

**Your email address:** [jcarolmartin@gmail.com](mailto:jcarolmartin@gmail.com)

**Your name:** Jeanne Carol Martin

**I would like to:** File a formal complaint

**Legal name (required to file a complaint):** Jeanne Carol Martin

**Telephone number:** 360-277-3764

**U.S. mail address:** PO Box 116, Seabeck, WA 98380

**Respondent name. (The person's against whom the complaint is filed):** Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington

**Sections of law violated:**

1) The PDC requires that the top five contributors must be printed on political advertising disclaimers. The flyers in question mailed by Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington list only two contributors 2) Making a false statement of material fact about a candidate on political advertising.

**What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?**

- 1) Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington harmed the hundreds of **public volunteers** who worked to get Washington State 35<sup>th</sup> LD candidate, Irene Bowling, elected. It felt as though all of our efforts were for nothing because, despite hundreds of hours of doorbelling and working to give Irene's message to local voters through a variety of legal grassroots methods, OOCEW undid all of our work with exaggerations and false implications contained in expensive negative flyers mailed to voters shortly before the November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 election. Had I (and other volunteers) known that a rich PAC would bombard voters with false information right before the election, I would have chosen to spend my time in other ways.
- 2) OOCEW's flyers also harmed **the candidate (a member of the public)** by making claims that she "PLEDGED to vote straight down the party line in the legislature," (see attachments below for photos of these flyers) leading voters to believe that Irene would not represent them but would only work to represent party interests. This was not true. Irene has told me she did not say this, and never would.

Multiple flyers from OOCEW arrived in voter's mailboxes within days of the November 6, 2018 deadline to mail in ballots. Irene Bowling did not have time to counter the implied untruths in the flyers (and probably would not have had access to the large amount of money needed to do so at this late date in her campaign). OOCEW's flyers probably cost Irene the election - very obvious harm to a member of the



public. Therefore, she wasted hundreds (or thousands) of hours of time; money; and effort doorbelling, etc... for her campaign.

- 3) And, **the public was harmed** by being given fictitious information concerning candidate Irene Bowling shortly before ballots were due. Irene did not have time to reach all the voters who had been mailed flyers to correct the misinformation. Therefore, voters may have voted based on fictitious information, and may have voted for a candidate who they would not have otherwise.

**List of *attached* evidence or contact information where evidence may be found:**

A footnote (almost impossible to read without a magnifying glass) followed OOCEW's statement in one its flyers saying that Irene "pledged to vote straight down the party line in the legislature, meaning higher taxes and spending that we can't afford." The footnote referenced a document that was a QUESTIONNAIRE, not a contract that involved any kind of pledge or promise. The entire statement about a pledge was fictional.

- 1) The document referenced by the footnote can be viewed at: [https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene Bowling Caucus Questionnaire 2018.pdf](https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene%20Bowling%20Caucus%20Questionnaire%202018.pdf). (If this site does not take you directly to Irene Bowling's questionnaire, you may have to enter *Irene Bowling* in the search box, then select the *questionnaire for Irene Bowling*)

- 2) Photos of flyers mailed by OOCEW sent as attachments to this ticket:

IMG\_2859.JPG is a photo of a large one-page mailer (not folded) that has the disclaimer printed upside-down on the bottom of the address side of the flyer making it less noticeable, and also discouraging recipients from reading it.

IMG\_2850.JPG is a photo from a flyer with text stating that Irene PLEDGED to vote straight down the party line. This is a fictitious statement supported by a footnote that references a questionnaire, not a pledge or promise of any kind.

IMG\_2849 is a photo of the standard disclaimer text used by OOCEW that only lists two contributors, not five. The contributors listed are also PACs. If less than five PACs donated to OOCEW, then why weren't the top contributors to the donating PACs listed, to bring the total donors to the required five?

Some of the flyers received had disclaimers that were printed in a very light, small text, making them extremely difficult to read.

I could attach many more photos, but the last time I tried to submit this form, it did not go through to your office. I think it may have contained too many attachments. Please let me know if I you would like me to send more photos.

You will be able to see details on the flyers that don't appear to be within PDC regulations. None of the different flyers mailed listed the top five contributors.

**LIST OF POTENTIAL WITNESSES WITH CONTACT INFORMATION TO REACH THEM:**

If you would like a list of the many, many people who volunteered hundreds of hours for Irene's campaign, please let me know. I would need to get these volunteers' permission to release their names and contact information to the PDC.

I will also be happy to supply the PDC with the names of citizens I know who received OOCEW's intentionally misleading flyers in the mail. I can't give you a list of everyone these flyers were mailed to - only OOCEW could do that.

*(I checked yes on the following statement): I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

**DESCRIPTION: (this section is supposed to clarify that "this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief")**

**I'm sure it is obvious that I am not a lawyer. I have done my best to interpret PDC rules when making this formal complaint.**

Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington mailed out a large quantity of flyers asking people NOT to vote for Irene Bowling for Senate for the 35th LD and presenting material in their flyers that was not strictly truthful (that directly or indirectly implied something that was not true - possibly fitting the description of false political advertising).

Multiple flyers from OOCEW arrived in voter's mailboxes within days of the November 6, 2018 deadline to mail in ballots. Irene Bowling did not have time to counter the implied untruths in the flyers (and probably would not have had access to the large amount of money needed to do so at this late date in her campaign).

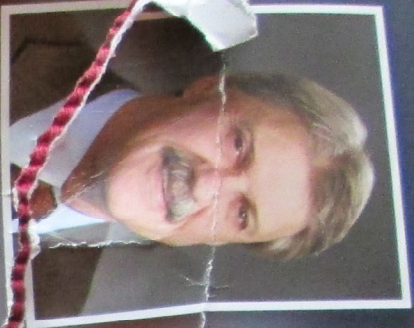
The flyers themselves did not appear to follow all PDC rules for political advertising.

I believe that the Independent Expenditure political advertising that was sent as mailed flyers to voters in the 35th Legislative District of Washington State by Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington violates the spirit (if not, the letter) of the Public Disclosure Commission's rules. With this kind of negative advertising impacting voters, it is no wonder that the general public feels discouraged to actively

participate in efforts to support candidates. Good new candidates for office will also be discouraged knowing that they can never compete with the enormous sums of money that PACs have access to.

I was dismayed to find that Our Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington was not a grassroots *community* organization, as its name is probably intended to imply. Instead it is a wealthy PAC representing many small to large businesses in Washington state, that is in turn supported by a very few, even wealthier, PACs. The average citizen does not have the time to follow the money behind the plethora of political advertising they receive in the mail shortly before elections. Therefore, I think it is vitally important that PDC rules are rigorously enforced.





# TIM SHELDON

## WON'T STOP FIGHTING FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.

It's time to give back to those who  
gave everything for us.

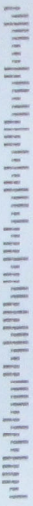
It's time to stand up for our veterans.



**Tim Sheldon (D)**  
for State Senate  
★ — ★ — ★  
**Vote by Tuesday,  
November 6<sup>th</sup>**

No candidate authorized this ad. Paid for by Our  
Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington.  
Top 5 Contributors: Enterprise WA's Jobs PAC and  
Washington Hospitality Assoc PAC  
1603 116<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Suite 120  
Bellevue, WA 98004

\*\*\*\*\*ECRLOT\*\*B001 P-1 P151  
The Martin Household  
Or Current Resident  
PO Box 116  
Seabeck WA 98380-0116



8920

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PSP



She's pledged to vote straight down the party line in the legislature, meaning higher taxes and spending that we can't afford.<sup>1</sup>

This has earned her the strong support of Seattle establishment liberals and the State Democratic Party.<sup>2</sup>

This means more support for the Democrats in the legislature as she puts her party first, not the district she represents.

Irene Bowling will work for the Seattle establishment liberals and leave us in the gutter.



Paid for by Our Olympic Communities Enterprise  
Washington. No candidate authorized this ad.  
Top 5 Contributors: Enterprise WA's Jobs PAC and  
Washington Hospitality Assoc PAC.

1603 116th Ave NE Suite 120  
Bellevue, WA 98004

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
RR Donnelley

Jeanne Martin replied (Sat, 9 Mar 2019 at 1:49 PM)

to: "PDC Support" <[pdcc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdc.wa.gov)>

I must apologize for the length of this email. I tend to be too detail-oriented! I have attached some flyer photos at the bottom of this email, and will send others in a separate email. Thank you for taking the time to review my concerns:

**1) Pertaining to the *bowling alley* ad:**

**See attachments: IMG\_2850.JPG (sent with my Friday, March 1 email) close-up of text with footnotes 1 and 2.**

**IMG\_2848.JPG outside, unfolded view of ad**

**IMG\_2847.JPG inside, unfolded view of ad**

**IMG\_2866.JPG close-up of footnote 1 on this ad**

**IMG\_2851.JPG shows footnote 2 on this ad**

The text of this ad, which uses a bowling alley setting, contains two footnotes. The two footnotes at the bottom of the page are in a small white font against a beige background (IMG\_2847.JPG). This appears in my photo as a narrow white line at the bottom of the page. I had to put on magnifying reading glasses AND use an additional magnifying glass to read the websites given as references. Close-ups of the two footnotes can be viewed in attachments IMG\_2866.JPG, and IMG\_2851.JPG. Please note that this difficult-to-read text was a problem with footnotes and references on all OOCWE ads I was mailed.

**Footnote 1** on this ad directs the recipient to the usual questionnaire:

[https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene\\_Bowling\\_Caucus\\_Questionnaire\\_2018.pdf](https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene_Bowling_Caucus_Questionnaire_2018.pdf). As noted in my March 1 email, the reference given does not support OOCWE's statement that "She's pledging to vote straight down the party line in the legislature, meaning higher taxes and spending that we can't afford." Footnote 1 references a **questionnaire** Irene Bowling completed, **not a pledge**, contract, or promise. Because the footnote is so small, recipients are unlikely to bother trying to use it to verify the statement, and may take the statement at face value.

<https://www.wa-democrats.org/blog/endorse-irene-bowling-state-senate> is the reference given in support of footnote 2 (see IMG\_2851.JPG), following OOCWE's statement: "this has earned her (Irene) *the strong support of Seattle establishment liberals* and the State Democratic Party." When I go to the site referenced by the footnote, I get a *Washington State Democrats* Communication Blog. The page begins with a plug for Irene dated **June 3, 2014**, four years *before* the November 2018 election. This is not a *current* endorsement for Irene. Nor does it support the phrase that *Seattle establishment Liberals* support Irene. I can find no published statement anywhere that specifically states that *Irene has earned the strong support of Seattle establishment liberals*. This should be a minor detail, but politicians in the 35th LD often insinuate that 'Seattle liberals' are voting in a way that harms the 35th LD. Therefore, it was beneficial to OOCWE to *make up* a statement showing an alliance between Seattle liberals and



Irene Bowling. I am under the impression that statements presented as fact on political ads must be truthful.

**2) Pertaining to the *Irene Bowling has already made up her mind* ad:**

**See attachments: IMG\_2857.JPG unfolded inside view of this flyer  
IMG\_3021.JPG unfolded outside view of flyer (contains mailing  
address)  
IMG\_2858.JPG closeup of footnote on bottom of inside view.**

I find this ad to be the most misleading one against Irene Bowling produced by OOCWE.

The disclaimer on this ad is in a particularly light font against a white background making it hard to read (IMG\_3021.JPG). As usual, the disclaimer only lists two contributors.

This ad also has an incredibly small footnote that directs the reader to a questionnaire Irene completed: [https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene\\_Bowling\\_Caucus\\_Questionnaire\\_2018.pdf](https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene_Bowling_Caucus_Questionnaire_2018.pdf). To see how small the footnote font is, and how hard it is to read the white font on the light beige background, see IMG\_2857.JPG. As noted earlier, the site this footnote directs the recipient to is a questionnaire, not a contract or promise. The site references standard Democratic issues, but certainly does not cover everything that would come up in the course of a four-year Senate term. However, this ad states, based on this footnote, that “Irene has decided no matter what, she’s voting for whatever her party wants from her.” The ad goes further to say, “Irene has earned strong support from the state Democratic Party for her *promise* to vote a straight party line in the legislature.” Two fictitious statements. This ad also makes other fictitious statements: “Irene Bowling decided she isn’t going to work for us”; and “Irene Bowling works for the Seattle liberal establishment.” I can find nothing to back up these statements.

The ad also states that “*Our taxes pay her salary, her votes affect our lives*, and she has decided no matter what, she’s voting for whatever her party wants from her.” (see IMG\_2857.JPG) This appears to be an intentionally misleading statement that implies Irene was currently working and voting in the Senate. This statement may *falsely represent that a candidate is an incumbent* (I believe this is disallowed by PDC rules). Irene was a current candidate, NOT an incumbent. This statement is most likely designed to anger voters by making them believe that their tax dollars have already been paying an incumbent candidate who supposedly does not represent their interests.



I also find it questionable that this ad, produced by OOCEW, uses photo-shopped pictures of Irene wearing ear protectors and carrying a crazy sign. I don't know if it is within PDC guidelines to alter photos to fit the sponsor's agenda. Here is Merriam-Webster's definition of photo-shopping:

[Photoshop | Definition of Photoshop by Merriam-Webster](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/photoshop)  
[www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/photoshop](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/photoshop)

Definition of photoshop. photoshopped; photoshopping; photoshops. transitive verb. : to alter (a digital image) with Photoshop software or other image-editing software especially in a way that distorts reality (as for deliberately deceptive purposes)

## **2) Pertaining to the *Tim Sheldon/Veteran* ad:**

See attachments: **IMG\_2859.JPG front side of ad with disclaimer and mailing address**

**IMG\_3022.JPG back side of ad**

I included this flyer to show the interesting use of an upside-down disclaimer (see IMG\_2859.JPG). The disclaimer is actually easy to read, but not inviting to read because it is upside-down. Once again, only two contributors are listed. I have included an image of the back side of the flyer (IMG\_3022.JPG) to illustrate that there appeared to be no need to have any upside-down text on the back side of the flyer. I would have to guess that the designers wanted everything on the back side of the flyer to be reader-friendly (as opposed to the disclaimer on the front side).

## **4) Pertaining to the *Tim Sheldon's Values Are Our Values* ad:**

See attachment: **IMG\_2852.JPG**

This was the only flyer I received sponsored by OOCEW that listed more than two contributors in the disclaimer. This flyer lists *three* contributors. I may not agree with the statements on this flyer, but they appear to be opinions because they are not footnoted and have no 'supporting' documentation. Therefore, with the exception of only three contributors, instead of five, listed on the disclaimer, I do not believe this flyer has any other issues that are not in agreement with PDC guidelines.

**Additional Note 1:** An online ad from OOCEW contained the same unsupported or fictitious statements I have detailed above. To see an online OOCEW ad opposing Irene Bowling and supporting her opponent, go to <http://timsheldonforwa.com/> This online ad contained statements at the end of the ad opposing Irene Bowling.

I was surprised to *not* see this ad detailed under Independent Expenditures against Irene Bowling on her PDC page. It would seem that the portion of this ad that opposed Irene would have been

reported. The only Independent Expenditure by OOCEW I saw on Irene's PDC page was for *direct mailing* against her. Was this OOCEW expense reported to the PDC?

**Additional note 2:** I received at least four flyers in the mail shortly before the November 2018 election. (if there were more than four, I did not save them)  
According to OOCEW's PDC report, it looks like they claimed a total expense for flyers opposing Irene in 2018 of \$9264.53. Knowing something about the cost of printing, I find it hard to believe that so many people I know received these four flyers with a total cost to OOCEW of only \$9264.53. These were large, glossy, color two-sided flyers. Some of them were folded. One especially large flyer (the *bowling alley* flyer) contained two folds AND a cut-out of a donkey.

The *bowling alley* flyer was **19 inches by 10.5 inches**

The *Irene Bowling Has Already Made Up Her Mind* flyer was 11 inches by 10.5 inches

The *Tim Sheldon/Veteran* flyer was 11 inches by 8.5 inches

The *Tim Sheldon's Values Are Our Values* flyer was 11 inches by 6 inches

I would have expected these flyers, with postage, to cost at least \$5 each. Does OOCEW supply the PDC with receipts for their expenses that can be matched to each flyer they produced? Do these receipts, if received, detail the quantity produced, the cost of mailing, and other expenses?

IMG\_2848.JPG

4.35 MB

IMG\_2847.JPG

3.8 MB

IMG\_2866.JPG

5.86 MB

IMG\_2851.JPG

5.27 MB



# IRENE *Bowling*



IRENE BOWLING  
IS NOT LOOKING  
OUT FOR OUR FAMILIES  
OR OUR VALUES.



## WILL LEAVE OUR FAMILIES IN THE GUTTER



She's pledged to vote straight down the party line in the legislature, meaning higher taxes and spending that we can't afford.<sup>1</sup>

This has earned her the strong support of Seattle establishment liberals and the State Democratic Party.<sup>2</sup>

This means more support for the Democrats in the legislature as she puts her party first, not the district she represents.

Irene Bowling will work for the Seattle establishment liberals and leave us in the gutter.

## VOTE 'NO' ON Irene Bowling

1 <https://www.progressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene-Bowling-Caucus-Questionnaire-2018.pdf> | 2 <https://www.wedemocrats.org/press-releases/irene-bowling-state-senate>





SHE'S ROLLING  
STRAIGHT DOWN  
THE LINE FOR  
**Seattle**  
LIBERALS

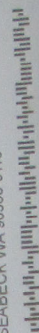


Paid for by Our Olympic Communities Enterprise  
Washington. No candidate authorized this ad.  
Top 5 Contributors: Enterprise WA's Jobs PAC and  
Washington Hospitality Assoc PAC.

1603 116th Ave NE Suite 120  
Bellevue, WA 98004



00015764 31 \*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*5-DIGIT 98380  
THE MARTIN HOUSEHOLD  
OR CURRENT RESIDENT  
PO BOX 116  
SEABECK WA 98380-0116

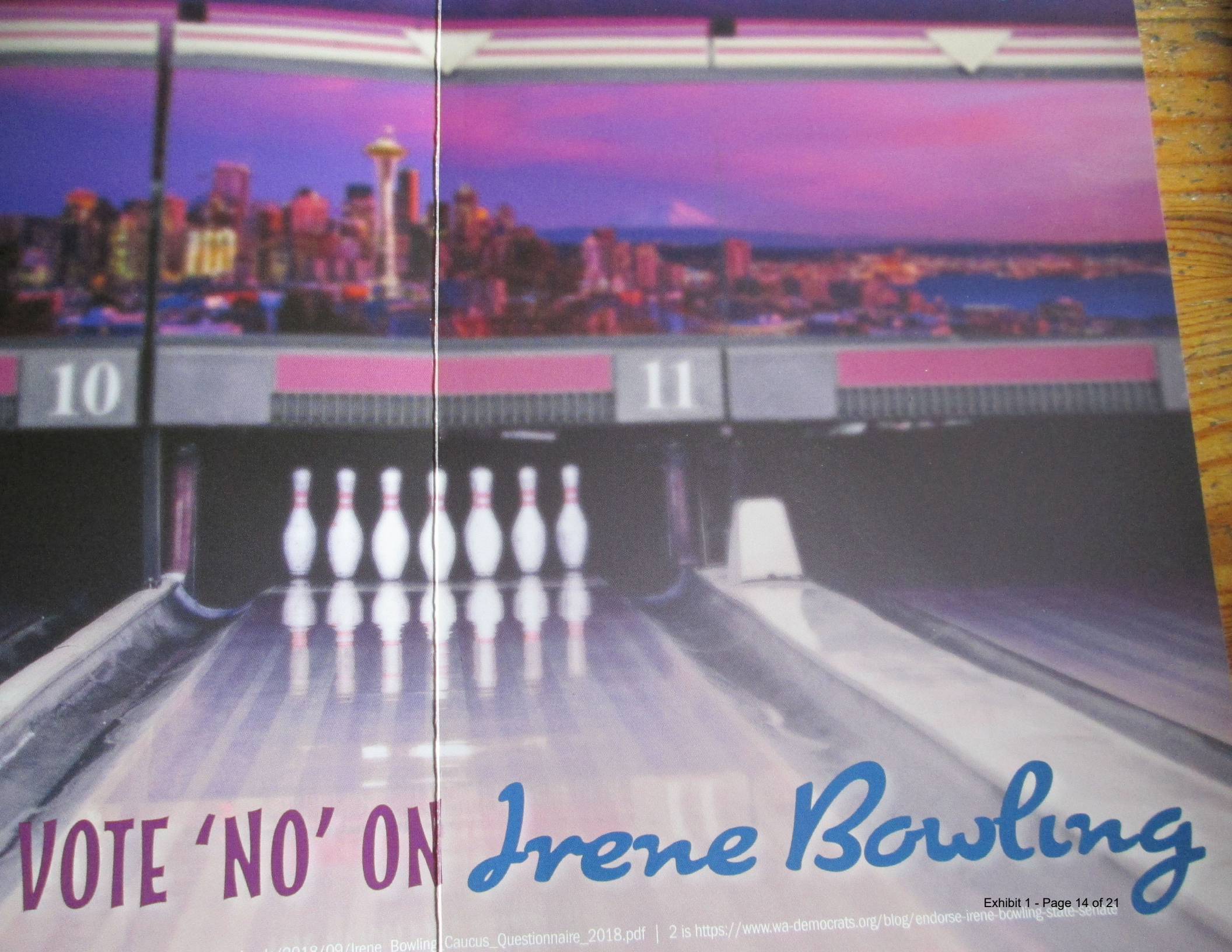


IRENE BOWLING IS VOTING STRAIGHT DOWN THE LINE  
FOR SEATTLE LIBERALS AND LEAVING US IN THE GUTTER  
**VOTE 'NO' ON IRENE BOWLING<sup>(D)</sup>**



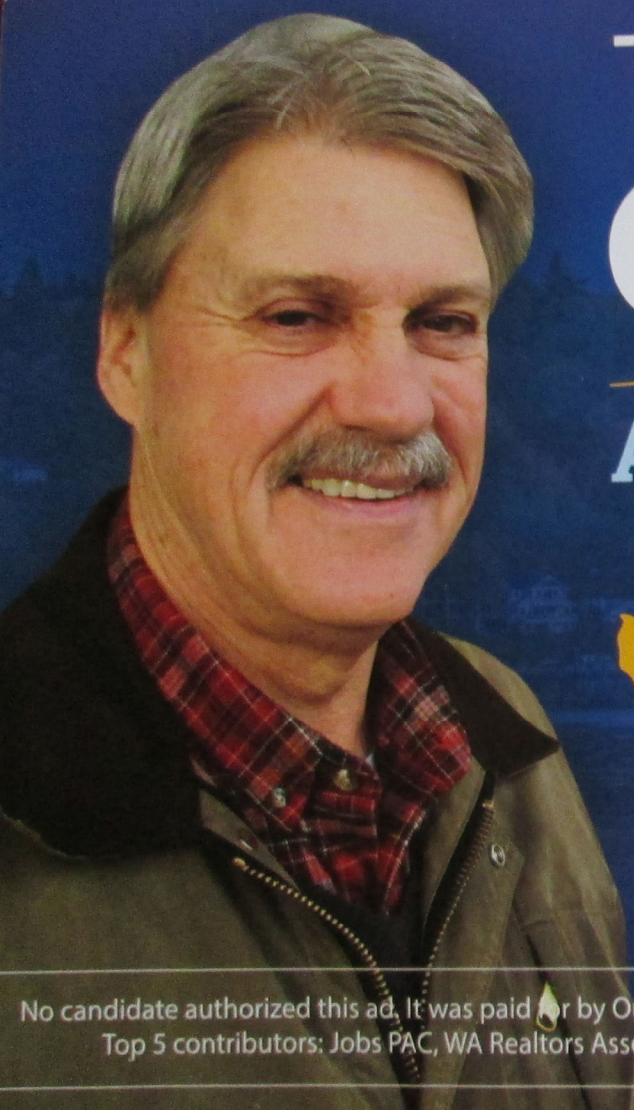
**Irene Bowling**  
HAS MADE IT CLEAR  
WHOSE SIDE SHE'S ON





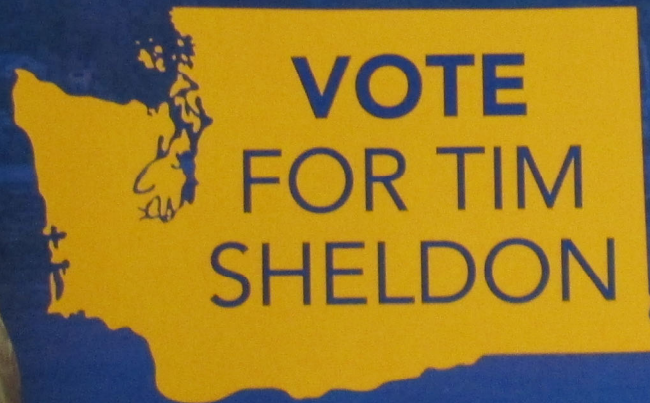
VOTE 'NO' ON *Irene Bowling*





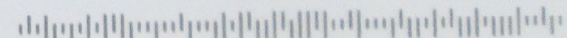
# Tim Sheldon's Values Are **OUR VALUES**

## And They Have Changed Olympia



Our Olympic Communities Enterprise WA  
1603 116th Ave NE #120  
Bellevue, WA 98004

STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TACOMA, WA  
PERMIT #397



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 98380

JEANNE & JOHN MARTIN  
OR RESIDENT  
PO BOX 116  
SEABECK, WA 98380-0116

7 / 6072 / 1

No candidate authorized this ad. It was paid for by Our Olympic Communities Enterprise WA.  
Top 5 contributors: Jobs PAC, WA Realtors Assoc PAC, WA Hospitality Assoc PAC



**IRENE BOWLING HAS ALREADY  
MADE UP HER MIND.**

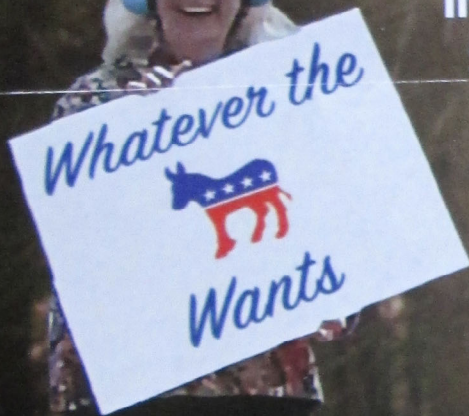
**SHE'S NOT LISTENING TO US.**

**Irene Bowling decided she isn't going to work for us.**

Our taxes pay her salary, her votes affect our lives, and she has decided no matter what, she's voting for whatever her party wants<sup>1</sup> from her.

**Irene Bowling works for the  
Seattle liberal establishment.**

Irene has earned strong support from the state Democratic Party for her promise to vote a straight party line in the legislature.



**WE CAN'T TRUST  
THAT KIND OF LEADERSHIP.**

**VOTE "NO" ON  
IRENE BOWLING**

1. [https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Irene\\_Bowling\\_Caucus\\_Questionnaire\\_2018.pdf](https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Irene_Bowling_Caucus_Questionnaire_2018.pdf)

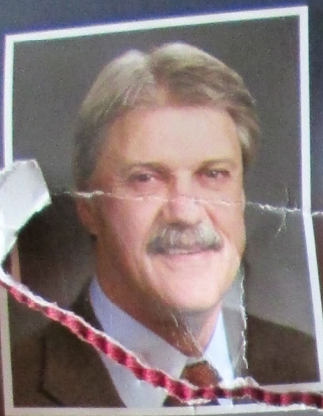


THAT KIND OF

VOTE "N  
IRENE BO

1. [https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene\\_Bowling\\_Caucus\\_Questionnaire\\_2018.pdf](https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene_Bowling_Caucus_Questionnaire_2018.pdf)





# TIM SHELDON

## WON'T STOP FIGHTING FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.

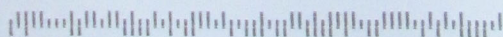
It's time to give back to those who  
gave everything for us.

It's time to stand up for our veterans.

**Tim Sheldon (D)**  
for State Senate



**Vote by Tuesday,  
November 6<sup>th</sup>**



Seabeck WA 98380-0116

PO Box 116

Or Current Resident

The Martin Household


\*\*\*\*\*ECRL0T\*\*B001 P-1 P151

8920

No candidate authorized this ad. Paid for by Our  
Olympic Communities Enterprise Washington.  
Top 5 Contributors: Enterprise WA's Jobs PAC and  
Washington Hospitality Assoc PAC  
1603 116<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Suite 120  
Bellevue, WA 98004

PASRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PSP





VOTE 'NO' ON *Irene*

1 [https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene\\_Bowling\\_Caucus\\_Questionnaire\\_2018.pdf](https://waprogressives.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Irene_Bowling_Caucus_Questionnaire_2018.pdf)



# IRENE BOWLING (D) ISN'T LISTENING TO US.

Only to the Seattle Liberal Establishment.

We can't trust that  
kind of leadership.

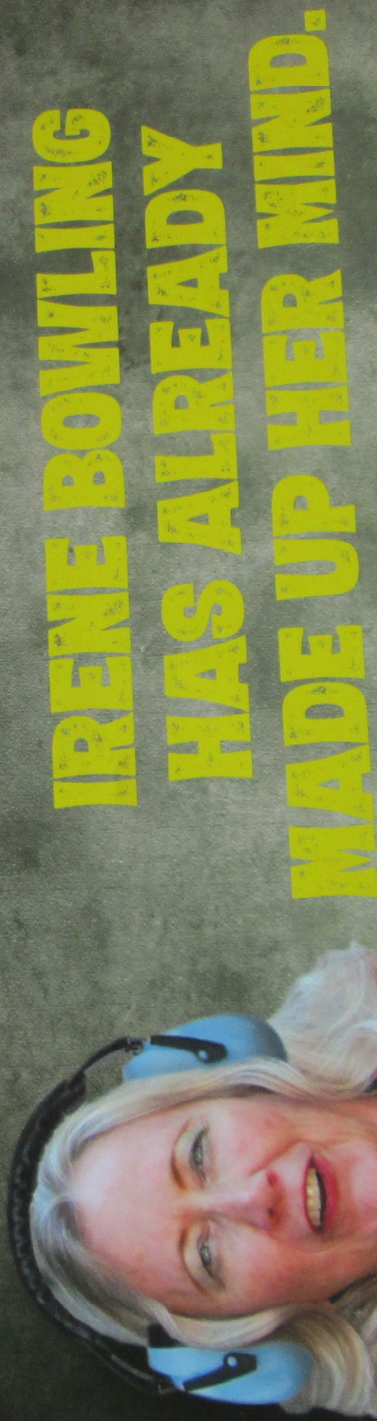
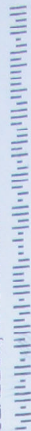
## VOTE 'NO' ON IRENE BOWLING



No candidate authorized this ad.  
Paid for by Our Olympic Communities Enterprise  
Washington, Top 5 Contributors: Enterprise WA's  
Jobs PAC and Washington Hospitality Assoc PAC  
1803 118th Ave NE Suite 100  
Bellevue, WA 98004

Presented  
Standard  
US  
Postage  
PAID  
OCPC

\*\*\*\*\* AUTO\*\*5-DIGIT 98380  
THE MARTIN HOUSEHOLD  
OR CURRENT RESIDENT  
PO BOX 116  
SEABECK, WA 98380-0116



# IRENE BOWLING HAS ALREADY MADE UP HER MIND.





# TIM SHELDON

Fighting for What's Right.  
Fighting for Our Veterans.

After risking everything, too many of our vets now live on the streets.

**Tim is working to change that.**

Tim Sheldon reaches across the aisle, working with both parties, to lead the fight to end veteran homelessness.

**Tim has worked for, and succeeded in, securing the necessary funding and services for homeless veterans.**

It's time to give back to those who gave everything for us.

**It's time to stand up for our veterans.**



**TIM  
SHELDON<sup>(D)</sup>**  
FOR STATE SENATE



**Vote by Tuesday,  
November 6<sup>th</sup>**





# Exhibit 2



April 3, 2019

***VIA EMAIL ONLY***

Tabatha Blacksmith  
Washington State Public Disclosure Commission  
P.O. Box 40908  
Olympia, WA 98504-0908

RE: PDC Case No. 47988, Our Olympic Communities PAC Enterprise Washington

Dear Ms. Blacksmith:

I am replying on behalf of the Our Olympic Communities PAC Enterprise Washington (the Committee) to your emails of March 6, March 12, and March 27, 2019 requesting a response to a complaint filed by Jeanne Martin (the Complainant) with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC), alleging various violations of Chapter 42.17A RCW and/or Title 390 WAC by the Committee. The March 6, 2019 email from you forwards the initial complaint by the Complainant apparently sent to the PDC on or about February 28, 2019. The March 12, 2019 email from you forwards supplemental information from the Complainant apparently forwarded to the PDC on or about March 9, 2019. The final email sent from you March 27, 2019 narrows the scope of the PDC's inquiry in this case. The summary of these emails is that the PDC seeks a response to alleged violations of (in order presented to the Committee):

1. RCW 42.17A.320 and WAC 390-18
2. RCW 42.17A.335
3. RCW 42.17A.225, .260., or .305
4. RCW 42.17A.240

**Alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.320 and WAC 390-18**

**Failure to Disclose Top Five Contributors on Political Advertising RCW 42.17A.320(b)**

The Complainant's initial email of February 28, 2019 attached images of disclaimers from two different mail pieces sponsored by the Committee. In the email of March 9, 2019, the Complainant attached images of the same two mail pieces plus two additional mail pieces sponsored by the Committee. RCW 42.17A.320(b) requires disclosure of the top five contributors in excess of \$700 in any political advertising when the sponsor is a political committee. The Committee had three contributors at the time of the printing of the four mail pieces that met the threshold requiring disclosure. Unfortunately, three of the four mail pieces inadvertently do not list the Washington Association of Realtors PAC (the PAC) as one of the top contributors as they should. The fourth mailing does list the PAC as a top five contributor. The Committee regrets the oversight.

"Upside-down" disclosures on mailings RCW.17A.320 and WAC 390-18

The complaint notes that one "veterans" mail piece supporting Tim Sheldon features a disclaimer that is upside-down in relation to other text on the same page and alleges that this constitutes a violation. The Committee maintains that the disclaimer in this mail piece meets all the requirements for clarity, contrast and placement as required in Chapter 42.17A RCW and Title 390 WAC. There is no orientation requirement for text in a disclaimer and the Complainant notes herself in her March 9, 2019 email on page 3, section 2 that "the disclaimer is actually easy to read..."

In your email of March 27, 2019, you suggest that the disclaimer in the "headphones" mail piece might also be upside-down. This disclaimer is not upside down in relation to other text on the page and, in fact, the Complainant does not allege that the disclaimer on this or any other mail piece is oriented improperly. As with the previous mail piece, the Committee maintains that the disclaimer in this mail piece meets all the requirements for clarity, contrast and placement as required in Chapter 42.17A RCW and Title 390 WAC.

**Alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.335**

Voting with Her Party

The Complainant suggests that language in the mail pieces in question criticizing Ms. Bowling's pledge "to vote straight down the party line" and stating that she has earned her "the strong support of Seattle establishment liberals and the State Democratic Party" are false statements of material fact.

It is a violation of RCW 42.17A when a person sponsors "with actual malice a statement constituting libel or defamation per se" for political advertising containing "a false statement of material fact about a candidate for public office." [RCW 42.17A.335\(1\)\(a\)](#). A violation of this section "shall be proven by clear and convincing evidence." [RCW 42.17A.335\(4\)](#).

The complaint notes and the mail pieces in question cite the "Washington State Progressive Caucus Questionnaire 2018" (the questionnaire) completed by Ms. Bowling. Attachment 1. The Washington State Progressive Caucus describes itself as "the largest constituency caucus in the Washington state Democratic Party". Attachment 2. The Complainant notes that the questionnaire "references standard Democratic issues" and does not dispute the accuracy of the answers. In the questionnaire, Ms. Bowling commits to a number of positions on issues and legislation or potential legislation held by progressives and the Democratic Party.

In addition, during her 2018 campaign, the majority of Ms. Bowling's campaign contributions were received from political committees formally affiliated with the Washington State Democratic Party and based in Seattle. She also received thousands of dollars from individuals living in Seattle. In fact, only a minority of her campaign's contributions came from her own district.

Even without the evidence presented here by the Committee, it is important to note the statute does not require a respondent to establish the truth of any statement but rather requires clear and convincing evidence of a false statement of material fact.

The complaint does not provide any evidence that the statements in the political advertising by the Committee are not true. Notably, this complaint is not brought by the candidate and no rebuttal from the candidate has been provided. The burden of proof in any jurisdiction for defamation or libel is high and the same is true with [RCW 42.17A.335\(4\)](#). The burden of proof is on the Complainant to show by clear and convincing evidence that the characterization presented in the mail pieces is a false statement of material fact. Instead, the Complainant has provided virtually no evidence of any kind.

The Committee maintains that the characterization of Ms. Bowling's legislative commitments and her affiliation with the Democratic party are accurate.

Presenting Candidate as an Incumbent

The Complainant suggests that language in one of the mail pieces stating "Our taxes pay her salary, her votes affect our lives" represents that Ms. Bowling is an incumbent. However, this language is meant to be prospective in nature and characterizes her impact should she be elected, and at no point does the Committee use the word "incumbent" or attach a title to her name or cite specific votes that have occurred in the legislature or anywhere else. As before, no false statement of material fact has been presented, and certainly no "clear and convincing evidence" has been presented by the Complainant that suggests otherwise.

**Alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.225, .240, .260 and .305**

The Committee reviewed its public disclosure filings for this race and has filed additional C-6 reports to ensure full disclosure. The online ad referred to on Page 3 Section 2 of the Complainant's email of March 9, 2019 is part of C-6 #8746.

I hope you find this information useful. Please contact me if I can provide further information, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



---

Dan Brady, WSBA #33731

Attachments

1. Irene Bowling Washington State Progressive Caucus Questionnaire 2018
2. Washing State Progressive Caucus Home Page



# Washington State Progressive Caucus Questionnaire 2018

**Submission Note:** The submission deadline for this questionnaire is September 5th 2018 12:01 PM PST. It must be submitted to [waprogressives@gmail.com](mailto:waprogressives@gmail.com) to be considered

**Explanatory Note:** Our endorsements (and sometimes donations) are generally made to people running for the state legislature, municipal and county offices, public utility commissioners, etc. If you are running for such an office, you may wonder why we are asking questions about state-wide or national issues. The reason is that local officeholders are tomorrow's senators, representatives and governors. Even if you have nothing of the sort in mind now, you may easily feel differently in a few years. We want to put people into the pipeline from, as Howard Dean once put it, "the Democratic wing of the party." We are old fashioned enough to think that the New Deal and the Great Society were good ideas and modern enough to be up to speed on all the latest organizing methods and apps. If you have reservations about answering any of these questions, please explain why.

**Candidate Name:** Irene Bowling

**Position Sought:** State Senator 35<sup>th</sup> L.D.

**Campaign Manager:** Sophia Blamey

**Consultant:** Engage Campaigns

**Campaign Email:** irene@irenebowling.com

**Campaign Phone:** 360-990-5302

**Website:** [www.irenebowling.com](http://www.irenebowling.com)

**Campaign Address:** P.O. Box 1182 Silverdale, WA 98383

**Do you request the endorsement of the Progressive Caucus?** Yes

## Labor

Do you support raising state and federal minimum wages? To what level? Yes. Minimum 15 an hour

What legislation would you support to make organizing unions easier? Repeal the Janus decision. Fight for unions and the right for workers to unionize without employer penalty.

## Education

What is your opinion of high stakes testing? How would you change the way students and teachers are evaluated? I do not agree with the exaggerated level of testing in our schools. It does not sufficiently take in to account the tremendous disparity in what schools and teachers fairly can offer in varied school districts and does not factor in economic injustices. Although more complicated, students and their schools must be evaluated case by case until our school systems comes up to par EQUALLY for all schools in the state.

What is your opinion of charter schools? Against charter schools. Public funding should go to public schools. Let's make sure their quality and resources are fully funded and supported.

## Environment

How would you promote development of alternative energy and prevent privatization of natural resources? Work with government agencies and pass legislation that supports their research and missions first and foremost. My opponent is on the board of Energy Northwest and they are looking in to modular nuclear plants. I am against this.

# Washington State Progressive Caucus Questionnaire 2018

What are your plans for increasing investments in renewable forms of energy production? What types of renewable energy do you favor most? For our state, hydro electric and wind.

## Finance/Taxation

What would you do to facilitate implementation of public banking and monetary reform? The development of a state bank would be a major breakthrough. I would support it.

What solutions do you propose to fix WA State's highly regressive tax system? Capital Gains on individuals in upper income brackets. Close "loopholes" on over 800 businesses (at least look at it carefully and lower this list!) Pass legislation that forces companies given tax incentives to keep jobs in Washington State. Get rid of B. and O. tax for small businesses.

## Health Care/Retirement

Explain your position (for or against) Medicare for All (aka single payer health care) in terms of the effect on local citizens, service providers, and government. I am totally in agreement for a single payer health system in this country. It is long overdue!

What policies do you oppose and what policies would you promote with respect to Social Security and Medicare? Hands off of Social Security and Medicare. If anything, they should be expanded.

## Security/Public Safety

How would you act to stop the militarization of local police forces and establish civilian oversight of law enforcement? This could be done by passing carefully crafted legislation in conjunction with working closely with local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and private citizens.

How would you preserve national security while protecting American's right to privacy? I am not sure I would have to know more about these issues.

## General

Do you consider yourself a Democrat? Yes Do you consider yourself a progressive? Yes Why? During this campaign, I have shunned any association with PACS, corporate influence. The funding for this campaign has been almost exclusively from citizens in the 35<sup>th</sup> and beyond. My views of campaign financing, medicare for all, and free college tuition, are shared with like minded progressives.

What parts, if any, of the [Washington State Democratic Party Platform](#) (← click link to view) do you disagree with? Why? I agree with it. That is why I am a Democrat.

If this is not your first election, what other offices have you run for? If it is your first campaign, what other campaigns (candidate or issue) have you participated in? What did you learn from those

# WASHINGTON STATE PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

Working together for a better future for everyone!

## PRIMARY MENU

## Welcome!

As the largest constituency caucus in the Washington State Democratic Party, we represent a diverse group of hundreds of people who share a common goal of advancing progressive issues, values and candidates. Together, our collective voice can influence the Democratic Party as well as local, state and federal legislation through action, education, community building and endorsements.

There are several ways to get involved with the Progressive Caucus. All around the state people are joining us and volunteering. You can:

- Get up-to-date information by [liking our Facebook page](#)
- Add your voice to the discussion by [joining our statewide Facebook group](#) or the Facebook group for your Congressional district
- [Become a dues paying member](#) for only \$20 per year, which will give you a voice and vote on Caucus endorsements, resolutions, and other key decisions used to promote our shared progressive values

We look forward to hearing from and working with you.

# Washington State Progressive Caucus Questionnaire 2018

campaigns? I ran against Tim Sheldon in 2014 for state senate. I ran against Dan Griffey in 2016 for state house.

I learned that I must speak my mind freely and not be constrained by “party platitudes”. I have “grown up” a lot and feel that if elected, I will have the steel determination to carry through the progressive policies that we truly need in this region and country.

Have you ever been a precinct committee officer or held other Democratic organization offices?

Yes. I was PCO for Eagle Crest for several years. I was also state committee woman and later, chair of the 35<sup>th</sup> L.D. I have volunteered for many campaigns over the years.

What single issue is the most important motivator for your run for office? What proposals do you have for dealing with it? I am sick and tired of the lack of innovation, concern, and compassion by our present 35<sup>th</sup> L.D. legislators, in relation to supporting education, job growth, infrastructure investment (esp. in roads), and environmental degradation of our forests and waterways. I am 61 years old and have seen a lot. I have the energy and passion to support change, listen to our citizens, and try to repair the damage that has been done for too many years in the 35<sup>th</sup>.

Are there also important secondary issues? Describe your approach to implementing solutions? See above. As a state legislator I will fight for these issues (and so many more) and work with others to bring good changes to our district.

If you are running in a heavily Republican area, do you have a reasonable chance at winning? If not, how do you plan to use your candidacy to build ongoing connections among local people who share progressive values? The votes are there in the 35<sup>th</sup> for a TRUE democrat to win. Our strategy is to point out the difference between Sheldon and myself and urge people to vote for their own best interests and not for the corporations (which Sheldon is funded by and always supports). Any help you can give this campaign would be tremendously appreciated. Thank you!