

## Complaint Description

Complainant: Michael Fertakis

Respondent: Larry Gossett

[Michaelfertakis](#) reported via the portal Wed, Jul 10, 2019 at 3:19PM

Larry Gossett using public office to promote his campaign in violation of RCW 42.17A.555



On June 20th, 2019 Cindy Domingo (Larry Gossett's Chief of Staff) posted a picture to Larry Gossett's official campaign page of him shaking hands with a constituent. As you will notice in the picture (File 1: "Larry using public office to promote his campaign"), there is a plaque in

the background with descriptions of the “Metropolitan King County Council Committees.” This plaque can be found in the offices of the King County Council, meaning this picture was taken in the facilities of a public office and/or agency. This picture was not taken during an open public meeting as it is not in the council chambers. We know this, because on his official Councilmember page the day prior (June 19th, 2019) he shared a picture with the same constituent as well as the other Councilmembers in the council chambers (File 2: "Picture during the open public meeting").



Additionally, given the first person narrative tone of the post on his campaign page, and that she is sharing the photo, it is clear Cindy Domingo was intending to post this as if it was coming directly from Larry Gossett himself, meaning she (as his chief of staff) is conducting campaign business on his behalf during work hours. This is an egregious violation of RCW 42.17A.555 which states “No elective official nor any employee of his or her office nor any person appointed to or employed by any public office or agency may use or authorize the use of any of the facilities of a public office or agency, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of assisting a campaign for election of any person to any office or for the promotion of or opposition to any ballot proposition. Facilities of a public office or agency include, but are not limited to, use of stationery, postage, machines, and equipment, use of employees of the office or agency during working hours, vehicles, office space, publications of the office or agency, and clientele lists of persons served by the office or agency.”

Picture during the open public meeting.JPG  
63.18 KB

Larry using public office to promote his campaign.JPG  
108.33 KB

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

This is an abuse of power and public resources to support his campaign, depriving voters the ability to participate in a fair and balanced election.

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

1. Screenshot of Facebook Post from Larry Gossett's official campaign Facebook Page
2. Screenshot of Facebook Post from Larry Gosset's official council Facebook Page

**List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them.**

**Complaint Certification:**

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.



**King County Councilmember Larry Gossett**



June 19 at 5:55 PM · 🌐

Today, the Council proclaimed "Juneteenth" in King County and highlighted the Central Area Chamber of Commerce's long time role in celebrating this holiday. Accepting the proclamation was Lawrence Pitre, Executive Director of the Chamber. <https://kingcounty.gov/.../news/2019/June/06-19-LG-Juneteenth...>







Larry Gossett for  
King County  
Council  
[@LarryGossettKC2](#)

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Cindy Domingo ▸ Larry Gossett for King County Council

June 20 at 6:17 AM · 🌐

June 19 is "Juneteenth" in King County and the beginning of celebrations throughout King County. I was joined by the head of the Central Area Chamber of Commerce, Lawrence Pitre, as he received a King County Proclamation.

