



**State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

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September 9, 2019

Delivered electronically to Glen Morgan at glen@wethegoverned.com

Subject: Complaint regarding My-Linh Thai, PDC Case 54839

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on July 16, 2019. Your complaint alleged that My-Linh Thai, a candidate for State Representative in the 41st Legislative District in 2018, may have violated RCW 42.17A.220(4) for accepting over limit anonymous contributions.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the applicable PDC reports filed by the Respondent; and reviewed the Respondent's data in the PDC contribution database, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- On March 29, 2018, My-Linh Thai timely filed a C-1 report declaring her candidacy for State Representative in the 41st Legislative District in 2018 and selected the Full Reporting Option.
- RCW 42.17A.220(4) states in part that "accumulated unidentified contributions in excess of one percent of the total accumulated contributions received in the current calendar year, or three hundred dollars, whichever is more, may not be deposited, used, or expended, but shall be returned to the donor if his or her identity can be ascertained. If the donor cannot be ascertained, the contribution shall escheat to the state and shall be paid to the state treasurer for deposit in the state general fund."
- On its website, the PDC guidance outlines the amount of anonymous contributions a candidate may accept in a calendar year.
- The complaint alleged that in calendar year 2018, My-Linh Thai accepted anonymous contributions in the amount of \$400, which is \$100 more than the allowable limit of \$300.
- Staff review of the Monetary Contribution reports (C-3 reports) and the Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports) filed by My-Linh Thai found her campaign could accept the greater amount of up to 1% of the total accumulated contributions.
- In her response to the allegation, Ms. Thai stated... "per RCW 42.17A.220(4), anonymous donations are limited to \$300 or 1% of the contributions received in the calendar year, whichever is higher. On 10/30/2018 C4, the total raised was \$135,057.65, meaning that the anonymous limit on 11/1/2018, was at least \$1,350.58. Since \$400 is lower than \$1,350.58, there was no violation of RCW 42.17A.220(4)."

Based on these findings, staff has determined that, in this instance, no evidence supports a finding of a violation warranting further investigation.

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 pdcc@pdc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

s/_____
Erick Agina, Compliance Officer

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

cc: My-Linh Thai

