

Complaint Description

Andrew Saturn

reported via the portal Sat, 13 July, 2019 at 8:51PM

In June 2018, Linda Oosterman was filmed while at the official American Water Works Public Officials Training in Las Vegas, NV. Linda Oosterman then used this video to promote her Thurston County Public Utilities District Commissioner re-election campaign on Facebook. According to Thurston County PUD records, Linda Oosterman was paid to attend the training, and her travel and hotel expenses were paid and/or later reimbursed, including incidental food and snacks such as “cookies and pringles.”

Linda Oosterman also made a separate election campaign Facebook ad showing off her certificate from the event. The certificate was part of Linda Oosterman’s official duties and her training, both of which were funded by the Thurston County PUD. In the ad, Linda Oosterman states she’s the “only qualified candidate,” in an odd attack against my candidacy. Her reasons for being the “only qualified candidate” are that she attends the required training events and meetings as an elected PUD Commissioner. In other words, Linda Oosterman’s attack against my campaign was that she is already elected and that she performs the minimum requirements under the law. Weird flex, but a violation nonetheless.

Incumbents misusing official photos and videos of themselves performing official duties in order to promote an election campaign has already been established as a violation of state law in similar state ethics investigations. In 2016, Former State Rep. Melanie Stambaugh was found to have violated the law and legislative ethics rules and charged \$5,000 (suspended from \$220,000) in fines for nearly identical behavior. Rep. Stambaugh posted then publicly-available videos and photos of herself performing her official legislative duties to her campaign Facebook page—while different in that Linda Oosterman is not a legislator, using video and photo of her tax-funded training and official duties onto her election campaign Facebook page is nearly identical behavior.

AWWA PDC expenses.png
125.44 KB

AWWA Mandalay Bay receipt.png
129.41 KB

Oosterman room charges AWWA.png
221.79 KB

AWWA cert.png
218.26 KB

AWWA video 2.png
706.23 KB

AWWA video 1.png
768.16 KB

AWWA video 0.png
839.37 KB

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

Theft and misuse of tax-funded materials is a serious offense in that it both violates the trust the public places in elected officials and misappropriates public resources for the benefit of an individual. Doing so during an election is an extra breach of that trust.

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

Screenshots of the video ad placed on Facebook by the Linda Oosterman campaign during the 2018 election

Screenshot of the AWWA certificate ad placed on Facebook by the Linda Oosterman campaign during the 2018 election

Financial records showing Linda Oosterman was being paid with public dollars (via Thurston County PUD) and was on official business at the AWWA training which was the subject of both campaign ads

PUD records were provided to me in plain text - I pasted them into a spreadsheet to improve legibility

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.



Re-Elect Linda Oosterman

49 mins · 🌐

Linda is the only qualified candidate for PUD. She is a certified elected public official in water and wastewater. She has completed 130 days of professional education, and each month attends 2-3 days of statewide PUD meetings around the state. Linda works hard to assure Thurston PUD customers have safe and reliable water.



3

2 Shares

06/30/18	6	2018	\$	193.50	-	AWWA ACE 18 Per Diem			
06/30/18	6	2018	\$	256.27	-	AWWA ACE 18 Per diem & reimbursement for taxi and shuttle			
06/30/18	6	2018	\$	222.05	-	AWWA ACE 18- Per Diem & Shuttle Reimbursement			
06/30/18	6	2018	\$	348.09	-	Lodging in Las Vegas for AWWA ACE 18 06/10/18 to 06/14/18 - C. Stearns			
06/30/18	6	2018	\$	348.09	-	Lodging in Las Vegas for AWWA ACE 18 06/10/18 to 06/14/18 - R. Olsen			
06/30/18	6	2018	\$	68.10	-	Transportation Costs RE: AWWA ACE 18 - R. Olsen			
07/31/18	7	2018	\$	399.55	-	Reimburse Lodging AWWA ACE18 Las Vegas, 06/10-13/18, L.Oosterman			



Name: Olsen,Russell,

ROOM # : 58308
RESV # : 770426272
ARRIVAL : 06/14/18
DEPARTURE : 06/14/18

DATE	DESCRIPTION	CHARGES	CREDITS
06/10/18	Deposit Applied		201.82
06/10/18	Room Revenue	178.00	
06/10/18	Room Tax - 13.38%	23.82	
06/10/18	Resort Fee	20.00	
06/10/18	Resort Fee Tax	2.68	
06/11/18	Room Revenue	178.00	
06/11/18	Room Tax - 13.38%	23.82	
06/11/18	Resort Fee	20.00	
06/11/18	Resort Fee Tax	2.68	
06/12/18	Room Revenue	178.00	
06/12/18	Room Tax - 13.38%	23.82	
06/12/18	Resort Fee	20.00	
06/12/18	Resort Fee Tax	2.68	
06/13/18	Room Revenue	178.00	
06/13/18	Room Tax - 13.38%	23.82	
06/13/18	Resort Fee	20.00	
06/13/18	Resort Fee Tax	2.68	

Total : 696.18

MANDALAY BAY®

Resort & Casino

3950 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Las Vegas, NV 89119

Reservations
1-877-632-7000
TTY 877-632-7101

Guest Information
1-702-632-7777
FAX 1-702-632-7234
Mandalaybay.com

Linda Oosterman

ERN 7

Room No. 29305
Conf No. 780370610
Arrival 06/10/18
Departure 06/14/18

DATE	DESCRIPTION	CHARGES	CREDITS
06/10/18	Deposit Applied		201.82
06/10/18	MB Refreshment Ctr Non-Taxable Room# 29305 : PRINGLES	8.00	
06/10/18	Room Revenue	178.00	
06/10/18	Room Tax - 13.38%	23.82	
06/10/18	Resort Fee	20.00	
06/10/18	Resort Fee Tax	2.68	
06/11/18	Room Revenue	178.00	
06/11/18	Room Tax - 13.38%	23.82	
06/11/18	Resort Fee	20.00	
06/11/18	Resort Fee Tax	2.68	
06/12/18	MB Room Service Food	39.99	
06/12/18	Room Revenue	178.00	
06/12/18	Room Tax - 13.38%	23.82	
06/12/18	Resort Fee	20.00	
06/12/18	Resort Fee Tax	2.68	
06/13/18	MB Refreshment Ctr Non-Taxable Room# 29305 : COOKIES	10.00	
06/13/18	MB Room Service Food	44.92	
06/13/18	Room Revenue	178.00	
06/13/18	Room Tax - 13.38%	23.82	
06/13/18	Resort Fee	20.00	
06/13/18	Resort Fee Tax	2.68	
06/14/18	Visa		863.09
	XXXXXXXXXXXXERN XX/XX		
	ERN 2		
	TOTAL USD 863.09		
	AID:A0000000031010		
	TVR:8080008000 TSI:6800		
	IAD:06010A03600000 ARC:00		
	ENTRY CODE: ICC 1E0300		
06/29/18	Visa		-64.00
	XXXXXXXXXXXXERN		
	TOTAL USD 64.00		



American Water Works Association

June 11, 2018



Re-Elect Linda Oosterman

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Re-Elect Linda Oosterman and 3 others



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