

**Complaint Description**

[Tallman Trask](#) reported via the portal Tues, 23 July 2019 at 2:52PM

Public Disclosure Commission  
711 Capital Way South, #206  
Olympia, WA 98504

July 23, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Christopher Rufo appears to have violated RCW 42.17A.430(4) when dissolving his campaign for Seattle City Council.

**Violation of RCW 42.17A.430(4)**

Upon dissolving his campaign, Rufo distributed remaining funds primarily to two entities: \$5600 to the Union Gospel Mission and \$10,000 to the Documentary Foundation, an organization of which Rufo is President and from which he personally received nearly \$70,000 in compensation in 2018. While the Union Gospel Mission was within the law, the contribution to the Documentary Foundation appears to have been made in violation of RCW 42.17A.430(4) as the organization is not “a charitable organization registered in accordance with 19.09 RCW,” but is rather a Washington nonprofit corporation registered, apparently, in accordance with RCW 24.03.

Evidence of the distribution of funds is found in Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission disclosures, a screenshot of and link to which is included in the attached complaint. Evidence of the Documentary Foundation’s filing status was found via the Washington Secretary of State’s charities and corporations search portal.

7.23.19 - Rufo PDC Complaint.pdf  
563.25 KB

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

Rufo, at the dissolution of his campaign, appears to have distributed surplus campaign funds in a way which is not allowed under the law, thereby potentially undermining the trust that the public has in candidates when making a contribution.

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

See description

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

Not applicable

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.

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**1. Violation of RCW 42.17A.430(4)**

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Evidence of the distribution of funds is found in Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission disclosures, a screenshot of which is below. Evidence of the Documentary Foundation’s filing status was found via the Washington Secretary of State’s charities and corporations search portal.

Date	Recipient Name and Address	Description	Amount
12/10/18	UNION GOSLEP MISSION PO BOX 202 SEATTLE, WA 98111	charitable donation	\$5,600.00
12/10/18	DOCUMENTARY FOUNDATION 120 NW 39th street #305 SEATTLE, WA 98107	charitable contribution	\$10,000.00
SubTotal - All Withdrawals			\$19,300.00

<http://www2.seattle.gov/ethics/eldata/filings/popfiling.asp?prguid={3922B203-5638-4B23-99E8-FBF426A98988}>

Thank you,

Tallman Trask