



**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: pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdcc.wa.gov

September 23, 2019

Delivered electronically to "faizah13@live.com"

Subject: PDC Case 56009

Dear Fa'izah Bradford:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Nancy Jean Majors concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted below to Nancy Jean Majors, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter.

If you have questions, you may contact Tabatha Blacksmith at 360-586-8929, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

/s _____
Tabatha Blacksmith
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s _____
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director



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September 23, 2019

Delivered electronically to "nmnimity@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Fa'izah Bradford, PDC Case 56009

Dear Nancy Jean Majors:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on August 3, 2019. Your complaint alleged that Fa'izah Bradford (the "Respondent") may have violated WAC 390-18-040 by using the term "reelect" in political advertising.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; and the response(s) provided by the Respondent to determine whether they support a finding of one or more violations.

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

- The Respondent is a candidate for School Director for Highline School District 401, position 5. The Respondent was appointed to this position on March 7, 2018 and her appointment runs through December of 2019.
- Sometime prior to August 3, 2019, the Respondent distributed campaign signs stating "Re-Elect Fa'izah Bradford" and made robo-calls wherein she stated she was "running for reelection."
- Pursuant to WAC 390-18-040, the term "reelect" is used to represent that the candidate was elected to, and presently holds, the same office being sought. The term "retain" is used to indicate the candidate is an incumbent but does not represent the office was attained by election. The term "return" is used to indicate the candidate now holds, or previously held, the office being sought but does not represent that it was attained by election.
- RCW 42.17A.335(1)(b) prohibits a person from sponsoring political advertising that falsely represents that a candidate is the incumbent for the office sought when in fact the candidate is not the incumbent. However, subsection (3) states that it is not a violation of subsection (1)(b) for a candidate or his or her agent to make such statements about the candidate himself or herself because a person cannot defame him or herself.
- In her response to the complaint, the Respondent indicated her belief that it was acceptable to use the term "reelect" in political advertising because she currently holds the position as an appointee. The Respondent stated she voluntarily plans to correct her remaining campaign signs no later than September 15, 2019 and use the term "elect," "return" or "retain" on any future robo-calls.

Based on these findings, staff has determined that, in this instance, the candidate's use of the term "reelect" to describe herself does not amount to 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 Tabatha Blacksmith at 1-360-586-8929, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdcc@pdc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

/s _____
Tabatha Blacksmith
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s _____
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director

cc: Fa'izah Bradford