



**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.pdca.wa.gov

September 10, 2019

Delivered electronically to "jonmutchler@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint filed by Keith Olson, PDC Case 56489

Dear Jon Mutchler:

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

As noted in the letter to Keith Olson, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of complete and accurate disclosure of sponsor identification on political advertising. PDC staff expects you to provide the required disclosures on all political advertising in the future.

If you have questions, you may contact Tabitha Townsend at 1-360-586-4555 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s

Tabitha Townsend
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director



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September 10, 2019

Delivered electronically to "kmo308@aol.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Jon Mutchler, PDC Case 56489

Dear Keith Olson:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on August 16, 2019. The complaint alleged that Jon Mutchler (Respondent), a 2019 candidate for Mayor of the City of Ferndale, may have violated RCW 42.17A.320 for failure to disclose the sponsor's name and address on movable political advertising; and RCW 42.17A.555 for displaying political advertising in support of the candidate's own campaign in city hall parking lot.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; and the responses provided by Respondent, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- The Respondent parked their personal vehicle in the City Hall parking lot with political advertising affixed to the exterior car door soliciting votes in support of their re-election campaign.
- RCW 42.17A.555 prohibits elected and appointed officials, and public employees, from authorizing the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot propositions.
- Ferndale City Hall parking lot is a public parking lot without any assigned parking and the vehicle was that of the Respondent's personal property, not a public facility.
- However, the political advertising affixed to the exterior of the vehicle failed to include the sponsor's name and address, as required by RCW 42.17A.320.
- The Respondent acknowledged and took responsibility for the failure to include sponsor identification, and took corrective action to remove the political advertising from the vehicle. And has stated the sponsor identification will be added in accordance with RCW 42.17A.320 if the advertising is put back up.

Based on our findings staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to properly disclose sponsor identification on political advertising does not amount to a violation that warrants further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding Jon Mutchler about the importance of complete and accurate disclosure of sponsor identification on political advertising. PDC staff expects Jon Mutchler to provide the required disclosures on all political advertising in the future.

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 Tabitha Townsend at 1-360-586-4555 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s

Tabitha Townsend
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director

cc: Jon Mutchler