

## Complaint Description

Glen Morgan (Fri, 9 Aug 2019 at 1:14 PM)

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that Approve Prop 1 - EvergreenHealth Sponsored by EvergreenHealth Foundation PAC has committed a wide variety of violations of **RCW 42.17A** in their campaign to support a \$345 million bond property tax proposal in their local hospital district. The following violations appear to have been committed:

### **1) Illegal acceptance of over limit contribution within 21 days of election (Violation of RCW 42.17A.420(1))**

According to **RCW 42.17A.420(1)**, it is illegal for any PAC to accept contributions over \$50,000 from any entity within 21 days of the election. The only exceptions to this are donations from bona fide political committees and incidental committees. This PAC accepted a contribution of \$225,000 from Evergreen Health Foundation on July 17, 2019, which is within 21 days of the election on August 6, 2019 (**See PDC report #100918186**). The Evergreen Health Foundation is not a bona fide political committee, and there was no incidental committee filing made by this organization at the time or since. This is an illegal contribution and it must be returned by this PAC

### **2) Failure to accurately list top 5 contributors on political campaign mailers (Violation of RCW 42.17A.320(2)(b) and 42.17A.320(6))**

A large volume of mailers were made by this PAC during the last few weeks before the election. Unfortunately, none of them accurately comply with the campaign finance laws in regards to accurately reporting the top 5 contributors to this campaign. For example, I have attached 6 different mailer examples (there may be more from this campaign) which fail to accurately list the top 5 contributors to this PAC. Please note, I have three more examples, which I will need to send in a separate complaint file due to file size limitations on this complaint. For example, they all fail to list contributor "Approve Our Public Hospital" which donated \$11, 912.63 on 5/31/19 (**See PDC report #100909081**). This contribution made this donor the second highest donor to this political committee, and yet this information was hidden from the public on every single mailer sent by this political committee.

Please note, while this complaint only provides physical evidence of 9 mailers from this PAC which violate the statute, it is likely that all other communication (radio, tv, on-line media) also committed the same violations, but this has been harder to document. The PDC should request evidence from this political committee which will most likely provide that every political communication during this election cycle was illegal and failed to accurately report the top 5 contributors to this PAC.

**3) Failure to provide accurate or adequate detail on expenditures (Violation of RCW 42.17A.240 (6), RCW 42.17A.235, WAC 390-16-037)**

This pro-tax campaign has regularly failed to follow Washington State’s Campaign Finance laws as they apply to the reporting of expenditures. Most of the C4s this campaign filed contain violations of the statute and the rules written by the Public Disclosure Commission which support the statute. Here are some examples that need to be corrected by this PAC to at least go through the motions of complying with the statute:

Examples of a failure to provide sufficient detail of expenditures (unambiguous violations of **RCW 42.17A.240(6)** and **WAC 390-16-037** (see example B provided at **WAC 390-16-037(3)**).

In no reported expenditure which include the many media companies used as vendors for this expensive pro-tax PAC funded media campaign are the details about the quantity of mailers (which by the sheer volume of these expenditures was significant and prolific – see the examples I attached to this complaint, which are only a small sample). Additionally, no other details as required by the statute are provided under any of the media purchases. For a well-funded campaign like this, there is no excuse to not follow the law – over \$746,000 in contributions should be enough to purchase adequate compliance with the statute, but this campaign appears to have been sloppy and poorly organized, and legal compliance was a distant afterthought.

Please feel free to contact me if you need further information about this complaint.

Best Regards,

Glen Morgan

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

The public was never accurately informed about who funded this massive PAC funded media blitz in support of this massive tax for \$345 million in bonds (no small sum). The public has a right to know who funded this campaign, and how this campaign squandered the sums it acquired (no details were provided about the prolific media campaign).

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

all attached or included in the body of the complaint

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

All officers and the officers of the two largest campaign donors, plus it might be necessary to contact the media companies involved in that side of this campaign as there is limited information provided in the C4s.

**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.