

Rick Johnson reported via email Fri, 13 Sep 2019 at 2:02 PM
to: "PDC Support" <pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov>
cc: b.rutherford@seattleaquarium.org

Dear Ms. Blacksmith and Mx. Blackhorn:

Attached please find the Seattle Aquarium's Incidental Committee Registration and Incidental Committee Payments and Political Expenditures Report. We do not anticipate any further payments that would require additional disclosure during 2019.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,
Rick Johnson

PDC filing 9-13-2019.pdf
882.25 KB



1483 Alaskan Way, Pier 59
Seattle, Washington 98101-2015

(206) 386-4300
SeattleAquarium.org

September 13, 2019

Ms. Tabatha Blacksmith
Compliance Coordinator
Public Disclosure Commission
711 Capitol Way S #206
Olympia, WA 98504-0908

RE: Case 56584

Dear Ms. Blacksmith:

Thank you for notifying the Seattle Aquarium regarding the complaint filed with your agency regarding failure to register as an incidental committee. Two violations were alleged in the complaint, which references payments made to Cultural Access Washington and to Parks for All.


The payments to Cultural Access Washington ("CAW") were membership dues for 2019. CAW is a Washington nonprofit corporation recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization. CAW supports access to cultural organizations in the State of Washington. There is no election campaign nor political committee during 2019 that involves CAW, therefore our membership dues do not require registration or reporting under RCW 42.17A207.

The Seattle Aquarium now understands and acknowledges its requirement to register as an incidental committee for its support of Parks for All and forms C11C and C8 are attached for that purpose. The Seattle Aquarium is a nonprofit corporation whose primary purpose is to manage the day-to-day operations of the Seattle Aquarium on behalf of the City of Seattle in support of its mission: Inspiring Conservation of Our Marine Environment. The Aquarium's facilities are owned by the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation, for which King County Proposition 1 provides support.

The complaint filed by a Mr. Glen Morgan accuses the Seattle Aquarium of "corrupt and dark money transfers" and "nefarious secretive funding efforts," which is utterly absurd, as are his many mischaracterizations of elements found in our public filings and documents. The Seattle Aquarium fully and accurately complies with all disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,

Rick Johnson
Director of Finance and Administration

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION  711 CAPITOL WAY RM 206 PO BOX 40908 OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908 (360) 753-1111 Toll Free 1-877-601-2828		<h2 style="margin: 0;">Incidental Committee Registration</h2>		<h1 style="margin: 0;">C1_{ic}</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">(3/19)</p>			
Committee Name Seattle Aquarium Society				Email: r.johnson@seattleaquarium.org Telephone: (206) 693-6114			
Mailing Address 1483 Alaskan Way, Pier 59				Acronym: SEAS			
City Seattle	County King	Zip + 4 98101-2015	NEW OR AMENDED REGISTRATION? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEW. Complete entire form. <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDS previous report. Complete entire form.				

1. Candidate(s) or political committee(s) which the incidental committee is supporting or opposing:

Candidate/ Political (e.g. ballot proposition) Committee	Office Sought/ Committee Address	Party affiliation/ Ballot Proposition No.	Check Support or Oppose
Parks for All	119 First Ave S, Seattle WA	King County Prop 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Continued on attached sheet.

2. Related or affiliated incidental and political committees. List name, address, and relationship.

☐ Continued on attached sheet.


3. Committee Officers. If the committee has no officers, the name of any responsible leaders and the committee's treasurer should be listed. Report name, title, and address.

Brad Rutherford, Chief Operating Officer
 Rick Johnson, Treasurer
 Both at 1483 Alaskan Way, Pier 59
 Seattle, WA 98101-2015

☐ Continued on attached sheet.

4. **Signature and Certification.** I certify that this report is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that the email address herein constitutes the official address for purposes of all communications with the Commission, and that I must notify the Commission of any change to that address within ten days. Please consult a lawyer or the IRS about tax-exempt status and what is allowable political activity.

Committee Officer's or Leader's Signature



Date

9/13/2019



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
711 CAPITOL WAY RM 206
PO BOX 40908
OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908
(360) 753-1111
TOLL FREE 1-877-601-2828

Incidental Committee Payments and Political Expenditures Report

C8

(3/19)

PDC OFFICE USE

1. Name of Incidental Committee

Seattle Aquarium Society

Attention (Identify person to whom inquiries about the report should be directed.)

Email address

Rick Johnson

r.johnson@seattleaquarium.org

Mailing Address

Telephone

1483 Alaskan Way, Pier 59

(206) 382-6133

City Seattle

State WA

Zip + 4 98101-2015

Reporting

From (last C-8)

To (end of period)

Period

1/1/2019

8/31/2019

Covered

2. Top ten largest sources of payments (monetary transfers or dollar value of services provided as in-kind) of \$10,000 or more to Incidental Committee during the current calendar year, if changed since last C-8 report. Include sources tied as the tenth largest, if any.

Name of Person or Organization Making Payment

Amount

Description, if in-kind payment

Seattle Parks and Recreation

\$617,453

CityPASS

\$481,851

Event Network

\$450,717

Sodexo

\$392,568

The Seattle Foundation

\$143,560

EventBright

\$139,512

Microsoft Prime

\$117,950

CampDoc

\$ 93,237

DA Davidson

\$ 85,000

King County Flood Control District

\$ 47,536

☐ Continued on attached sheet.

3. Monetary or In-kind contributions from Incidental Committee to a candidate or political committee during the reporting period.

Name of Recipient Candidate or Political (e.g. ballot proposition) Committee

Amount

Date and Description, if in-kind contribution

Parks for All

\$15,000

3/6/2019

Parks for All

\$35,000

5/31/2019

Parks for All

\$25,000

7/15/2019

☐ Continued on attached sheet.

Certification: I certify that this report is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that the email address herein constitutes the official address for purposes of all communications with the Commission, and that I must notify the Commission of any change to that address within ten days.

Printed Name and Title of Officer or Leader:

Rick Johnson, Treasurer

Signature of Officer or Leader

Date

9/13/2019