



State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION  
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November 6, 2019

Sent electronically to Debbie Treen at [Debbie.treen@gmail.com](mailto:Debbie.treen@gmail.com)

Subject: Complaint regarding Karen Howe, PDC Case 58104

Dear Ms. Treen:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on September 30, 2019. The complaint alleged that Karen Howe, a candidate for City Council Member for City of Sammamish Position 4 in 2019, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 for failure to timely and accurately file the Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure report (C-4 report) disclosing expenditure(s) undertaken by the campaign.

PDC staff reviewed your allegation; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; and the applicable C-4 report(s) filed by Karen Howe to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- The complaint alleged that Karen Howe failed to report an expenditure for a coordinated full-page ad run in the September/October 2019 Edition of the Klahanie Neighborhood Newsletter – *Klahanie Homeowners Association Living Issue 4*.
- In the ad, Karen Howe appears with two other Sammamish City Council candidates, Karen McKnight and Rituja Indapure.
- Staff found Karen Howe reported \$500 in expenditure paid to the Klahanie Homeowners' Association on September 17, 2019, for "Add in Assoc Newsletter." This expenditure was reported on the 21-Day Pre-General Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure report (C-4 report).

Based on these findings staff has determined that, in this instance, no evidence supports a finding of 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 Erick Agina at (360) 586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov)

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Erick Agina, Compliance Officer

s/\_\_\_\_\_  
BG Sandahl, Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: Karen Howe

