



**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

December 20, 2019

Delivered electronically to "klima.hhv@gmail.com, dupont4paramedics@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint filed by Maria Pierce, PDC Case 59543

Ms. Goss and Ms. Limata:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Maria Pierce concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) against the DuPont Citizens for Paramedics (Committee).

On December 19, 2019, the PDC received a completed Statement of Understanding (SOU) that was signed by you on behalf of the Committee along with a \$150 civil penalty payment that was assessed in accordance with WAC 390-37-143 (Brief Enforcement Penalty Schedule). The \$150 penalty resolves the allegations listed in the complaint for exceeding the \$500 contribution limitations of the Mini Reporting Option. By completing the SOU, the Committee acknowledged a violation of WAC 390-16-125 by exceeding the limits of the Mini Reporting Option.

PDC staff is reminding the Committee to adhere to the PDC reporting requirements in the future should the committee register and report as a Ballot Committee or political committee in accordance with PDC statutes and rules.

Based on the resolution of this matter through an SOU that you completed, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). Thank you both for your cooperation in resolving this matter.

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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December 20, 2019

Delivered electronically to “wantsun247@hotmail.com”

Subject: Complaint regarding DuPont Citizens for Paramedics, PDC Case 59543

Dear Maria Pierce:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on October 31, 2019. The complaint alleged that DuPont Citizens for Paramedics (Committee), a local ballot committee registered with the PDC in support of Proposition 1, a City of DuPont Levy Lid Lift for Fire and Medic One, appearing on the November 6, 2019 general election ballot may have violated WAC 390-16-125 by exceeding the contribution limitations of the Mini Reporting Option by accepting contributions from one source that exceeded \$500.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements for a local ballot committee; the responses provided by the Committee Officers; the applicable PDC reports filed by the Committee; and queried the Committee’s data in the PDC contribution and expenditure database.

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

- On August 8, 2019, the Committee filed the Committee Registration information as a first-time ballot committee, selecting the Mini Reporting Option and listing Kelly Limata as the Committee Manager and Melanie Goss Stone as Treasurer.
- Under the Mini Reporting Option, the Committee was limited to receiving no more than \$500 in aggregate monetary and in-kind contributions from any one source, and not receiving or spending more than \$5,000 in the aggregate during the election.
- On August 8, 2019 the Committee received a \$2,500 monetary contribution from the DuPont Professional Fire Fighters Local #3829 that was deposited directly into the Committee’s bank account.
- After being made aware of the complaint and the alleged violation on October 31, 2019, the Committee promptly refunded \$2,000 of the \$2,500 monetary contribution received from the DuPont Professional Fire Fighters Local #3829 on November 1, 2019.
- The Committee received and spent the \$2,500 contribution from the DuPont Professional Fire Fighters Local #3829, thus exceeding the limitations of the Mini Reporting Option for 74 days, prior to refunding the \$2,000 overage to the fire fighters.

- The Committee spent the \$2,500 in contributions received from the DuPont Professional Fire Fighters Local #3829. In order for the Committee to refund \$2,000 to the fire fighters, the Committee solicited and received four \$500 monetary contributions from four individuals that were received and deposited into the bank account on November 2, 2019.
- In the response, the Committee stated that the PDC statute and rules for the Mini Reporting Option concerning the contribution limitations states “no person” may make contributions in the aggregate that \$500. The Committee’s Treasurer mistakenly took “that to mean person” and “instead of receiving a lump-sum \$2,500 contribution from Union 3829, we would have received \$500 from the Union, as well as four additional checks in the amount of \$500 each from individuals.”
- Proposition 1, the City of DuPont Levy Lid Lift for Fire and Medic One, was defeated on the November 5, 2019 General Election ballot.
- On December 19, 2019, the PDC received a completed Statement of Understanding (SOU) and a \$150 civil penalty payment from Dupont Citizens for Paramedics.

The \$150 civil penalty assessed against the Dupont Citizens for Paramedics in this matter was done in accordance with WAC 390-37-143 (Brief Enforcement Penalty Schedule). By completing the SOU, Dupont Citizens for Paramedics acknowledged a violation of WAC 390-16-125 for exceeding the contribution limits of the Mini Reporting Option by receiving and depositing the \$2,500 monetary contribution from the DuPont Professional Fire Fighter Local 3829. The \$150 penalty paid by the DuPont Citizens for Paramedics resolves the allegation listed in your complaint.

Based on this information, and that the DuPont Citizens for Paramedics: (1) was a first-time ballot committee; (2) was unfamiliar with the committee reporting requirements; and (3) completed an SOU, paid a \$150 civil penalty, and acknowledged a violation of WAC 390-16-125, staff has determined in this instance, the exceeding the limitations of the Mini Reporting Option do not warrant further investigation.

PDC staff has reminded the DuPont Citizens for Paramedics to adhere to the PDC reporting requirements in the future should the committee register and report as a Ballot Committee or political committee in accordance with PDC statutes and rules.

Based on these facts, PDC staff is dismissing the complaint 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 pdcpdc@pdcpdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s

Tabitha Townsend
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director

cc: DuPont Citizens for Paramedics