



**State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

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January 27, 2020

Delivered electronically to Andrew Saturn at saturn@gmail.com

Subject: Complaint regarding People for Thurston County Jobs and Jason Bennett, PDC Case 59877

Dear Mr. Saturn:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on November 1, 2019. Your complaint alleged that People for Thurston County Jobs and Jason Bennett, may have violated RCW 42.17A.205 by failing to disclose a committee officer on the Committee Registration, as defined under RCW 42.17A.205 and WAC 390-05-245.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the applicable PDC reports filed by People for Thurston County Jobs and Jason Bennett (Committee); and reviewed their data in the PDC database, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- On October 11, 2019, the Committee filed a Committee Registration (C-1pc) selecting the Full Reporting option and listing Jason Bennett and Dean Nielsen as Committee officers.
- On October 21, 2019, the Committee amended its Committee Registration to include "Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser Company" in the name of the Committee to depict Weyerhaeuser Company as the sponsor of the Committee. Four days later, on October 25, 2019, the Committee amended its Committee Registration for the second time to remove "Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser Company" since its contribution fell below the 80% threshold.
- The complaint, which was filed on November 1, 2019, alleged that the Committee failed to disclose a committee officer on the Committee Registration as defined under RCW 42.17A.205 and WAC 390-05-245.
- RCW 42.17A.205(c)(j) states, (c) "The Statement of organization shall include but not be limited to: The names, addresses, and titles of its officers; or if it has no officers, the names, addresses, and titles of its responsible leaders; and (j) The name, address, and title of any person who authorizes expenditures or makes decisions on behalf of the candidate or committee."
- WAC 390-05-245 broadly defines a committee officer as, "Any person designated by the committee as an officer on the C-1 or C-1pc registration statement and any person who alone or in conjunction with other

persons makes, directs, or authorizes contribution, expenditure, strategic or policy decisions on behalf of the committee.”

- The Committee identified/listed Dean Nielsen and Jason Bennett as Committee officers on the initial Committee Registration that was filed on October 11, 2019, and on the two subsequent Committee Registrations that were amended to reflect the inclusion and removal of “Weyerhaeuser Company” as sponsor of the Committee on October 21, 2019 and October 25, 2019, respectively. All three Committee Registrations were filed with the PDC before this complaint was filed.

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 pdcc@pdc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

s/ _____
Erick Agina, Compliance Officer

s/ _____
BG Sandahl, Deputy Director
Peter Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: Jason Bennett, SeaTac Progress Treasurer

