



**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: [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)**

December 9, 2019

Delivered electronically to “bnadler@chmelik.com”

Subject: Complaint filed by Tim Schmitt, PDC Case 60036

Dear North County EMS Officials:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Tim Schmitt concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Tim Schmitt, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

If you have questions, you may contact Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fox Blackhorn  
Compliance Coordinator 2

/s

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director



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December 9, 2019

Delivered electronically to "lethalwit@hotmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding North County EMS Officials, PDC Case 60036

Dear Tim Schmitt:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on November 12, 2019. The complaint alleged that North County EMS Officials, public employees, may have violated RCW 42.17A.555 for misuse of public facilities to support a ballot proposition.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; and the responses provided by the Respondent, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- The Respondent issued a jurisdiction-wide informational mailer concerning a levy lid lift ballot proposition, making an objective and fair presentation of facts related to the ballot proposition and the needs of the agency, as allowed by RCW 42.17A.555 and PDC Interpretation 04-02, Guidelines for Local Government Agencies in Election Campaigns.
- The complaint refuted statements on the mailer which were not stated, which was alleged to have "*constructed a positive narrative which supports the levy, conveniently leaving out other facts running counter to that narrative.*"
- The response provided evidence to support the assertion that the statements presented on the mailer were an objective and fair presentation of the facts, within the normal and regular conduct of an agency.

Based on our findings staff has determined that, in this instance, insufficient evidence supports a finding of a violation that warrants 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).

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If you have questions, you may contact Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [fdc@fdc.wa.gov](mailto:fdc@fdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s

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Fox Blackhorn  
Compliance Coordinator 2

Endorsed by,

/s

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Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director

cc: North County EMS Officials