



**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.pdcc.wa.gov

January 30, 2020

Delivered electronically to “mandiraemcdougall@gmail.com”

Subject: Complaint filed by Glen Morgan, PDC Case 60509

Dear Mandi McDougall:

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

As noted in the letter to Glen Morgan, 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.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of timely reporting contributions & expenditures and providing expenditure details on reports. In the future, PDC staff expects that you will timely & accurately disclose this information in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

If you have questions, you may contact Tabatha Blacksmith at 1-360-586-8929, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

/s

Tabatha Blacksmith
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director



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January 30, 2020

Delivered electronically to "glen@wethegoverned.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Amanda McDougall, PDC Case 60509

Dear Glen Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on November 20, 2019. The complaint alleged that Amanda "Mandi" McDougall, a candidate for School Director for Centralia School District 401, position 4 may have violated RCW 42.17A.235, .240 and WAC 390-16-037 by failing to timely disclose contributions and expenditures on *Cash Receipts Monetary Contributions* reports (C-3 reports) and *Campaign Summary Receipts & Expenditures* reports (C-4 reports), and provide expenditure description details on reports for election year 2019.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations and evidence you submitted; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by Mandi McDougall (the "Respondent"); the applicable PDC reports filed by the Respondent; and queried the Respondent's data in the PDC contribution and expenditure database, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- The Respondent registered as a candidate with the PDC on May 22, 2019 and selected the Full Reporting Option.
- RCW 42.17A.235 requires candidates that select the Full Reporting Option to disclose all contributions received and expenditures made by filing periodic reports with the PDC. The due dates for these reports are based on the election cycle and are set forth in .235.
- With few exceptions, RCW 42.17A.240(2) requires candidates to disclose the name and address of each person¹ who made one or more contributions during the period covered by each report and the aggregate value of each person's contributions. Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.240(4), candidates are also required to report all other contributions not otherwise listed or exempted, such as in-kind contributions from the candidate to their own campaign or other sources.

¹ "Person" includes, but is not limited to, an individual, candidate, political committee, political party, organization, governmental agency, corporation, etc.

- RCW 42.17A.240(6) requires candidates to report the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure was made in the aggregate amount of more than fifty dollars during the period covered by the report, including the amount, date and purpose of each expenditure, as well as the total sum of all expenditures.
- WAC 390-16-037 states that expenditure reports “shall describe in detail” the goods and/or services provided, including the vendor to which an expenditure is made. The rule includes an example containing a numerical description (e.g. the number of brochures purchased).
- The Respondent filed five C-3 reports that were received 6 - 76 days late.
- The Respondent filed a total of seven C-4 reports, six of which were received 4 - 100 days late².
 - Two of the C-4 reports were due to be filed during critical reporting periods 7 and 21 days prior to the General Election.
 - The 7-day pre-general C-4 report, which disclosed a single \$10 expenditure, was filed one day after the General Election. Failure to timely report this expenditure before the election is an aggravating factor that is mitigated by its modest amount.
- Three of the Respondent’s C-4 reports appeared to lack expenditure description details for yard signs, stakes, and doorbelling literature.
- The Respondent’s campaign received \$3,020 in contributions and expended \$3,010 during election year 2019. The relatively small size and modest expenditures of this campaign are mitigating factors.
- Upon being notified of the complaint on November 26, 2019, the Respondent replied, apologizing for the unintentional oversight, and indicated a willingness to amend reports to resolve noncompliance.
- In response to the complaint, the Respondent’s campaign amended four C-4 reports, disclosing additional expenditure details.
- The Respondent’s campaign timely filed its post-general C-4 report, which covers the period of 10/29/19 - 11/30/19, eight days early.
- The Respondent is a first-time candidate. Lack of experience filing campaign reports with the PDC is a mitigating factor.

Based on our findings, staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to timely report contributions and timely & accurately report expenditures does not amount to a violation that warrants further investigation.

² The Respondent did not receive or spend at least \$200 until August 7, 2019 and was therefore not required to file a C-4 report for May by June 10, 2019. The Respondent did not participate in the Primary Election and was subsequently required to file monthly C-4 reports for June - August by the 10th day of each following month.

PDC staff is reminding Amanda McDougall about the importance of timely disclosing all contribution and expenditure activities, including detailed descriptions, and the timely filing of all future reports in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

Amanda McDougall made minor or ministerial errors on required reports, which did not materially impact the public interest. Upon notification of these errors, Amanda McDougall amended campaign reports, making the necessary technical corrections as requested by staff.

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 Tabatha Blacksmith at 1-360-586-8929, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

/s

Tabatha Blacksmith
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director

cc: Amanda McDougall