

State of Washington

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In RE COMPLIANCE WITH RCW 42.17A	PDC Case 60811
FedEx Corporation	Report of Investigation
Respondent.	Report of investigation

I. **Background, Complaint and Allegations**

- On January 15, 2019, Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending (MISS) filed a Committee Registration as a continuing political committee in 2019, selecting the Full Reporting Option and listing Michael Cero as the Committee Manager and Treasurer.
- During the 2019 election, MISS filed Summary Full Campaign Contributions and Expenditures reports (C-4 reports) and Independent Expenditures/Electioneering Communications reports (C-6 reports) disclosing expenditures that supported and opposed 2019 candidates for the Mercer Island City Council. MISS made a number of expenditures to Federal Express in Bellevue, WA for political advertisements in the form of independent expenditures, and/or electioneering communications during 2019.
- On October 18, 2019, Steve Finley contacted the Federal Ex Corporation (FedEx) Printing and Shipping Center in Bellevue, Washington by telephone and made a request to inspect the records of political advertising mailers sponsored and printed by Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending (MISS) for the November 2019 general election.
- On October 25, 2019, James Frush, Of Counsel attorney with Corr Cronin, LLP, sent an email and letter to the PDC on behalf of his client FedEx, concerning a citizen request to inspect records of political advertising for services provided to a customer at the Bellevue FedEx Office. See Exhibit #1
- On December 5, 2019, Steve Finley filed a complaint with the PDC against FedEx, the printing/copying division, alleging violations of RCW 42.17A.345 for failing to provide the documentation or records as a commercial advertiser for political advertisements undertaken by MISS. See Exhibit #2

- According to its website FedEx "provides reliable service and access to printing and shipping services that includes copying and digital printing, professional finishing, signs, computer rental, and corporate print solutions." In 2019, there were approximately 41 FedEx Office Printing and Shipping Centers in Washington State.
- On March 3, 2020, after conducting a preliminary review and assessment of the facts, PDC staff opened a formal investigation against FedEx and held an Initial Hearing (Case Status Review Hearing), pursuant to RCW 42.17A.755 and WACs 390-37-060 and 390-37-071.

II. Findings

• PDC staff created the spreadsheets listed below, including one summarizing the initial commercial advertiser requests made to FedEx by Bob Brooks (an individual who made the initial request for documents), and Steve Finley concerning political advertisements (POLADS) that had been ordered and paid for by MISS/Mike Cero. The other three spreadsheets summarize the follow-up requests for commercial advertiser records made by Mr. Finley. The spreadsheets indicated the records provided by FedEx that were responsive to the requests and additional staff comments.

Initial Commercial Advertiser request made to FedEx:

MISS Order	Date of	MISS	FedEx	Staff Comments
Date based on	Request(s)	Expenditures	Response	
C-4 reports		to FedEx	Date	
	10/15/19			Bob Brooks/Steve Finley initial
	&			request was for a \$1,433 MISS
10/3/2019	10/18/19	\$1,433.30	11/21/2019	expenditure.
				MISS expenditure disclosed on
				10/29, request or discovery
10/21/2019	N/A	\$4,240.52	11/21/2019	occurred after that date.
				MISS expenditure disclosed on
				10/29, request or discovery
10/28/2019	N/A	\$2,815.16	11/21/2019	occurred after that date.
				Records produced: email with
				order dates and payments for
				POLADS made by Mike Cero
N/A	N/A	N/A	11/21/2019	using his VISA.

- October 15, 2019: Bellevue's FedEx Office received an email from Bob Brooks requesting an inspection of the records pertaining to a \$1,433 expenditure made by MISS to FedEx to print a political advertisement that was paid for on October 3, 2019.
- October 18, 2019: The following three communications took place:
 - The Bellevue FedEx store manager sent an email to a FedEx district manager stating that
 in addition to the email request from Mr. Brooks, she had received telephone calls from
 Mr. Brooks and a new request from Steve Finley concerning the services provided to
 MISS.

- 2. Mr. Finley emailed PDC staff stating he contacted the Bellevue FedEx store requesting to inspect the MISS information in accordance with PDC statutes and rules, but no inspection has taken place or production of records had occurred.
- 3. PDC staff contacted the Bellevue FedEx store by telephone, leaving two messages concerning the political advertisements sponsored by MISS requesting that FedEx attempt to facilitate the records inspection. (Note staff also sent a follow-up email later to the FedEx store manager, informing her that as a commercial advertiser, FedEx must comply with the request and provide the requestors with the MISS information). See Exhibit #3.
- November 21, 2019: Maia Robbins, an attorney with Corr Cronin, LLP sent an email to Mr. Finley on behalf of FedEx, stating the Bellevue FedEx Office accepted political advertising from Mike Cero, Mercer Island Sustainable Spending, 8300 Avalon Drive, Mercer Island, WA 98040. The services provided by FedEx was printing mailers that supported candidate Jake Jacobson for Mercer Island City Council, Position 7, and a total of three orders and payments were made for this client/project on a Visa card in the amounts of: \$4,240.52; \$2,815.18; and \$1,433.30. Exhibit #4, page 16.

FedEx response concerning requests made on October 15 and 18, 2020 to inspect records:

- On December 19, 2019, James Frush (Of Counsel) and Maia Robbins (Attorney) with Corr Cronin, LLP, submitted a response to the complaint on behalf of FedEx, stating that on October 15, 2019, the store manager at the Bellevue FedEx Office (#5135) received an email from Bob Brooks requesting information concerning a \$1,433 expenditure made by MISS to FedEx for services. See Exhibit #4. The email from Mr. Brooks concerned MISS ordering envelopes, letters, etc... from FedEx that were paid for on October 3, 2019, and stated that Mr. Brooks "...sought to review the records pertaining specifically to this transaction" referring to the \$1,433 expenditure made by MISS.
- On October 18, 2019, the Bellevue FedEx store manager sent an email to the FedEx district manager concerning the requests (which included the initial request and stating that she also received telephone calls from Mr. Brooks and Steve Finley concerning a request for the same information. The manager indicated that both Mr. Brooks and Mr. Finley had requested to inspect MISS documents that had been "specifically produced for an individual named Mike Cero."
- The FedEx manager informed Mr. Finley that additional time would be needed in order to search for the records concerning his request, but Mr. Finley responded that the records needed to be produced at this time in accordance "with the law." The store manager informed Mr. Finley that she would contact him once "she sought out the needed information."
- FedEx had never received a request for customer information for political advertising and was not aware of the requirement, but the FedEx "store manager contacted Mr. Cero for his permission to share his information with Mr. Finley. Mr. Cero refused. The store manager then immediately consulted with and sought help from FedEx Office's legal department as to how to address this novel situation."

- The October 18, 2019 email from PDC staff to the Bellevue FedEx store stated that FedEx, as a commercial advertiser, must provide the requestors with the MISS expenditure information for the political advertisements in question, included a reference to the relevant statute, and stated that the information must be provided "regardless of approval by Mike Cero."
- On November 21, 2019, FedEx provided the requested information to Mr. Finley via email, as described more fully above, and on the same date, FedEx provided the requested information to Mr. Brooks. **Exhibit #4, pages 8-9.**
- The documentation from FedEx in response to Mr. Finley's initial request for inspection of the commercial advertiser provision was provided <u>34 days</u> after Mr. Finley's request for the three expenditures made by MISS, and <u>37 days</u> after the request made by Mr. Brooks concerning the \$1,433.30 expenditure made by MISS.

Follow-Up Commercial Advertiser Request

MISS Order Date based on	Date of Request(s)	MISS Expenditures	FedEx Response Date	Staff Comments
C-4 reports		to FedEx		M. Finles and MICC
			D .: 1	Mr. Finley requests MISS
			Partial	POLADS that included
			production on	2019 Mercer Island City
			12/4.	Council candidates, total
10/0/0010	11/01/0010	ф1 422 20	77' 1	cost, number of items
10/3/2019,	11/21/2019	\$1,433.30,	Final	printed, copy of the mailer,
10/21/2019 &	&	\$4,240.52 &	production on	date ordered/paid, and date
1028/2019	11/27/2019	\$2,815.16	12/17.	mailed/delivered.
				Records: email for
				10/13/2019, 2,500 2- page
				flyer printed and mailed;
				10/24/2019, 14,000
				postcards printed, 7,742
10/3/2019,	11/21/2019	\$1,433.30,		mailed; and 10/29/2019
10/21/2019 &	&	\$4,240.52 &	12/4/19 Partial	5,524 postcards printed
1028/2019	11/27/2019	\$2,815.16	production.	and mailed.
				Mr. Finley emails FedEx
10/3/2019,		\$1,433.30,		indicating the info
10/21/2019 &		\$4,240.52 &	12/17/19 Final	provided for MISS were
1028/2019	12/4/2019	\$2,815.16	production.	not accurate.
				FedEx provides 3 receipts
				for Mike Cero orders that
				included the employee
				name providing service,
				the date, number of
	11/21/2019,			postcards/envelopes
10/3/2019,	11/27/2019			printed, postage costs,
10/21/2019 &	&		12/17/19 Final	number of items mailed,
1028/2019	12/2/2019	\$8,488.98	production.	and total cost.

- November 21, 2019: Mr. Finley sent an email to Ms. Robbins stating there were additional advertisements that he would like to inspect, including the FedEx records for all mailers for all of the 2019 candidates seeking election to the Mercer Island City Council. In addition to the cost of each mailer, he requested the number of items that were printed, either a hard copy or a PDF of the actual mailer, the date ordered and paid, and the date delivered and mailed. Exhibit #4, page 8.
- **December 17, 2019:** Ms. Robbins sent an email to Mr. Finley stating that she was attaching the FedEx receipts for Mike Cero and the MISS advertisements, based on his request. The copies included three FedEx receipts dated October 13, 24, and 29, 2020, which listed the customer name, employee that provided the service, the date, the number of postcards or envelopes printed, the postage costs and number of items mailed, and the three receipts totaled \$8,488.98.

FedEx responses and email exchanges with Steve Finley concerning his follow-up request:

- The response from Mr. Frush and Ms. Robbins included copies of the email exchange Ms. Robbins had with Mr. Finley on behalf of FedEx, between November 26 through December 4, 2019, prior to the complaint being filed.
- On December 4, 2019, Ms. Robbins stated in an email to Mr. Finley that FedEx "was able to acquire the remaining information that may be disclosed publicly regarding Mike Cero's orders with FedEx Office." The information included the dates of transactions and the quantities of items printed and mailed, as follows: (1) on October 13, 2019, FedEx printed and mailed 2,500 double-sided printed pages; (2) on October 24, 2019, FedEx printed 14,000 postcards, and mailed out 7,742 of the postcards; and (3) on October 29, 2019, FedEx printed and mailed 5,524 postcards. Exhibit #4, page 11-12.
- Mr. Finley stated in email exchanges that Daniel Thompson was another candidate for Mercer Island that had made expenditures for political advertising to be printed at the Bellevue FedEx. He requested additional information about any mailers that MISS had paid for that supported or opposed Mr. Thompson, and nine additional candidates for Mercer Island City Council that included Daniel Jacobson; Deborah Bertlin; Heather Jordan-Cartwright; Craig Reynolds; Lisa Anderl; Patrick Allcorn; David Rosenbaum; Jon Hanlon; and Wendy Weiker. Exhibit #4, page 13.
- Mr. Finley also requested information about whether the sponsor identification disclaimer appeared "on all of the mailers paid for by MISS and who the top five contributors are on all of them" and included hyperlinks to the PDCs website for the C-4 forms filed by MISS, and stating that there "are at least five mailings. However, because they have not filed reports on time or accurately there may be more."
- In the response to the PDC, the attorneys also stated Mr. Finley requested copies of the mailers and print orders regarding services that FedEx had provided to Mr. Cero on behalf of MISS, and FedEx provided him with copies of those mailers. They stated that after Mr. Finley had received and reviewed copies of the MISS mailers from FedEx, he sent a follow-up email stating that the information was incorrect and appeared to conflict with the information disclosed on the C-4 reports filed by MISS.

- Ms. Robbins noted Mr. Finley made the same allegation in the complaint, and she noted "the dates of the transactions and quantities of items printed and mailed are presented in the receipts attached as Exhibit 3 to this response" and added that the information provided to Mr. Finley was accurate. The copies included three FedEx receipts dated October 13, 24, and 29, 2020, which listed the customer name (Mike Cero), employee that provided the service, the date, the number of postcards or envelopes printed, the postage costs and number of items mailed, and the total cost. **Exhibit #4, page 16.**
- On December 17, 2019, FedEx provided information responsive to Request #2, as more fully described above. The documentation from FedEx in response to Mr. Finley's second request for inspection of the commercial advertiser provision was provided <u>26 days</u> after Mr. Finley's request for the expenditures made by MISS.

Second Follow-Up to Initial Request

MISS Order Date	Date of Request(s)	MISS Expenditures	FedEx Response Date	Staff Comments
based on C-	Request(s)	to FedEx	Date	
4 reports				
				Mr. Finley sends email to
				FedEx indicating he did not
				receive a copy of a MISS
				mailer, and requested info for
				two new MISS expenditures,
				plus provided 10 other names
10/15/2019	12/18/2019	\$4,835.43	1/9/2020	to search for.
				FedEx sent an email to Mr.
				Finley stating the search
				conducted found no records
				for any of the names provided,
				and no records were found for
				any other flyers ordered in
			1/9/2020 (No	Mike Cero's name, other than
10/21/2019	12/18/2019	\$5,201.90	production)	the ones already provided.

- **December 18, 2019:** Mr. Finley sent an email to Ms. Robbins requesting information for two additional mailers that included FedEx services for a \$4,835 expenditure made on October 15, and a \$5,202 expenditure made on October 21. In addition, he provided other possible names to search under that included Susan, Olivia, Sophia or William Cero; Daniel or Dan Thompson; George Osborne; and Daniel or Jake Jacobson. Finally, Mr. Finley noted that he was still missing the copy of the mailer for the \$4,240.52 expenditure made to FedEx on October 23, 2020. **Exhibit #5, page 12.**
- **December 19, 2019:** Ms. Robbins sent an email to Mr. Finley stating that she had received his email and had forwarded his request to the FedEx Office. She noted that it was a busy time of the year for FedEx and requested patience while they reviewed their records for the documents.

- January 9, 2020: Ms. Robbins sent an email to Mr. Finley stating that FedEx had conducted a search and no records were found for any of the names he had provided. She added that FedEx had no records for any other flyers "used in Mike Cero's orders besides the ones we have sent to you already. Any discrepancies you perceive in the MISS' C4 forms should be addressed to the MISS and PDC directly". Exhibit #5, pages 11-12.
- January 10, 2020: On January 10, 2020, Mr. Frush and Ms. Robbins provided a response to PDC staff's January 2, 2020 email concerning the complaint filed by Mr. Finley, providing copies of the MISS POLAD's, and the email string between FedEx counsel and Mr. Finley. See Exhibit #5.

FedEx responses concerning Steve Finley second follow-up request:

- A December 19, 2019 response from FedEx legal counsel to the PDC concerning Mr. Finley's ongoing requests stated that the "FedEx Office cannot search for flyers based on content. I need to know the names of the individual people who would have purchased the services to conduct searches (the MISS is not sufficient). Any concerns you have with the accuracy of the C-4 forms should be addressed to the PDC and/or the persons or entities who filed them." She added that the FedEx Office feels it has "complied to its best extent possible with the laws and regrets any unintentional errors and/or delay in its responses."
- Mr. Frush stated each local FedEx office has a three-month customer service information retention policy, any customer information after three months is stored by national FedEx staff at their IT warehouse, and that the process takes time for a specific search to be completed and the documents produced. He stated FedEx staff had no discretion or involvement concerning the "design, layout, composition, or other activity in those transactions" and that staff merely took the file from the customer, entered the file into the FedEx systems, and then produce the copies. He added: "It's unknown whether the staff involved did or could have realized the nature of the contents or its connection with an election."
- On December 16, 2019, Ms. Robbins sends an email to Mr. Finley providing him with copies of the flyers FedEx Office had printed and mailed for Mr. Cero on behalf of MISS for the dates he had previously requested. She stated that FedEx was providing this information in accordance with WAC 390-18-050(6). Exhibit #5, page 13-14.
- No documentation was found by FedEx to be responsive to Mr. Finley's third request. While FedEx did provide a response to Mr. Finley's December 18, 2019 request, the email was sent 21 days after the third request was made for the expenditures made by MISS.

PDC Staff Follow-Up Request for FedEx Information

MISS Order	Date of	MISS	FedEx Response	Staff Comments
Date based on	Request(s)	Expenditures	Date	
C-4 reports		to FedEx		
				PDC staff sends an email to
				FedEx counsel, indicating
			Records	staff contacted MISS who
10/15/2019	5/8/2020	\$4,835.43	provided to	confirmed nine expenditures

			PDC staff on	made to FedEx during the
			5/21/2020.	2019 election, and
				requesting additional
			Records	information.
			provided to Mr.	
			Finley on	
			5/27/2020	
10/21/2019	5/8/2020	\$5,201.90	"	
				FedEx sends an email to
				PDC attaching three Excel
			Records	spreadsheets of data for the
			provided to	services FedEx provided for
			PDC staff on	the MISS political
5/15/2019	5/8/2020	\$102.96	5/21/2020.	advertisements.
10/28/2019	5/8/2020	\$165	"	
				FedEx sends an email to Mr.
				Finley attaching three Excel
			Records	spreadsheets of data for the
			provided to Mr.	services FedEx provided for
			Finley on	the MISS political
11/9/2019	5/8/2020	\$65.06	5/27/2020	advertisements.

- May 8 through 18, 2020: PDC staff exchanged emails with Ms. Robbins and Mr. Frush stating staff had reached out to MISS for documentation concerning their reported expenditures made to FedEx during the 2019 election. See Exhibit #6. The email string from PDC staff to FedEx legal counsel requested additional documents be provided to the PDC no later than May 22, 2020. The email explained that there were a total of nine MISS expenditures made to FedEx during 2019, and that records pertaining to six of the expenditures had not been provided by FedEx, including: (1) three MISS expenditures made for \$5,201.90 on October 19, 2019 and two \$4,835.43 expenditures made on October 12th and October 26, 2019 respectively; and (2) three MISS expenditures that were for small print jobs costing between \$65 and \$156.
- May 21, 2020: Mr. Frush sent an email to PDC staff indicating that FedEx has found responsive information concerning the services provided to MISS by FedEx for the six additional expenditures listed in the May 8th email from staff. Mr. Frush attached three spreadsheets of data showing the services provided at the FedEx Office in Bellevue store for the MISS political advertisements. See Exhibit #7 (Note: while each spreadsheet was comprised of two to seven rows of information, there was at least 160 columns of different information that included some duplicated information, blank columns, and other information that was not required to have been provided, that staff deleted to shorten. Just the October 2019 spreadsheet is being provided as part of this exhibit)
- Mr. Frush stated that the "first was a spot report of May 2019, a full report for the month of October 2019, and a full report for the month of November 2019. The analyst pulled out and highlighted the apparent matches. Please note that the transactions that were deposits can be found on the GL tab. It does look like there was not a name associated with some of the credit card transactions, which is probably why some of the transactions were not originally found."

• May 27, 2020: Ms. Robbins sent an email to Mr. Finley stating she has attached three spreadsheets "of data showing all MISS-reported transactions occurring at the FedEx Office Bellevue store. We believe this production satisfies our obligations to you under the Washington commercial advertiser rules and regulations."

<u>FedEx responses and PDC emails to FedEx and to MISS concerning PDC staff follow-up request:</u>

- Prior to sending the May 8, 2020 email to FedEx, PDC staff had been in contact with MISS concerning the political advertising expenditures made to FedEx and the investigation of the complaint allegations from Mr. Finley. In response to a PDC staff request for information, MISS submitted an email that included an attached spreadsheet MISS downloaded from its Online Campaign Reporting Activity (ORCA PDC software).
- The MISS spreadsheet listed eight expenditures that were made to FedEx during calendar year 2019 totaling \$18,859.33, which included a \$4,835.43 expenditure made to FedEx on October 15, 2019. The 7-Day Pre-General Election C-4 report filed by MISS disclosed the \$4,385.43 expenditure was for a "1/2 Page Mailer", and that report also disclosed that \$4,385.43 was refunded to MISS from FedEx on October 23, 2019, and MISS filed a Schedule C (Corrections) to the C-4 report backing that amount out of committee expenditures.
- The May 8, 2020, email from PDC staff to FedEx detailed the three small expenditures made by MISS for printing services for expenditures made on May 17, 2019 (\$102.96); October 29, 2019 (\$165); and November 12, 2020 (\$65.06).
- In the May 21, 2020 email from Mr. Frush to PDC staff, he attached three spreadsheets of data for services provided to MISS at the FedEx Office in Bellevue for the political advertisements at issue, which included the following information:
 - 1. October of 2019 FedEx spreadsheet: The FedEx spreadsheet totaled \$13,855.88 and included seven rows of entries for October of 2019, with five of them listing Michael Cero as the VISA cardholder paying for the services FedEx provided to MISS, along with the address and telephone number for Mr. Cero. All seven of the expenditures listed in the spreadsheet indicated the payments had been made by a VISA card with an expiration date of September 1, 2023. Two of the expenditures did not include a cardholder name, one for a \$1,433.30 expenditure made on October 3, 2019, and the other a \$4,240.52 expenditure made on October 21, 2019. Exhibit #7, pages 3-10.

One MISS expenditure made by Mr. Cero to FedEx was for \$5,201.90 on October 19, 2020, and one FedEx expenditure was for \$4,835.43, which as noted above was refunded to Mr. Cero and no services were provided for the \$4,835.43 expenditure. There were two additional entries that included a \$2,815.16 expenditure made by Mr. Cero on October 26, 2019 and a \$165 expenditure made by Mr. Cero on October 28, 2019. The spreadsheet included multiple columns of information collected by FedEx such as the first six and last four numbers of the credit card used, the expiration date, the cardholder verification method such as a signature, the name and title of the FedEx employee who took the order and provided the service.

- 2. **May of 2019 FedEx spreadsheet:** The FedEx spreadsheet included three rows of data for a May 15, 2019 expenditure totaling \$102.96, which appears to be for three separate print jobs as part of one order that included 360 black and white flyers and 160 white standard envelopes costing \$.13 each, and 40 colored flyers costing \$.65 each. The information listed the credit card used, and the first six and last four numbers of the credit card, but the spreadsheet did not include the cardholder name.
- 3. **November of 2019 FedEx spreadsheet:** The FedEx spreadsheet included three rows of data for a November 9, 2019 expenditure totaling \$65.06, which appears to be for three separate print jobs as part of one order that included 50 black and white flyers and 30 black and white flyers costing \$.13 each, and 75 colored flyers costing \$.65 each. The information listed the credit card used, and the first six and last four numbers of the credit card, but the spreadsheet listed the cardholder name as unknown.
- Mr. Frush stated the FedEx records indicated that Mike Cero placed the orders with FedEx using his individual name, and the records reflected that Mr. Cero did not indicate that any of the orders being placed were for MISS. In addition, none of the documentation provided by FedEx listed the acronym MISS or the name Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending.
- Mr. Frush stated that it seemed to him "a strong argument can be made that individuals who make purchases on behalf of PACs need to be required to report to the 'Commercial Advertiser' the name of the reporting entity when making the purchaser." He stated FedEx should not have to determine whether the services being provided to a customer is on behalf of a political committee or entity, and added Mr. Finley provided Mr. Cero's name and subsequently "the names of twelve additional individuals in addition to two variations on Mr. Cero's name."
- Mr. Frush stated FedEx's managers and employees at each store "should not be required to search some unlimited list of names for purchases. In this case, credit cards were used which allowed the transactions to be recovered. What happens when a credit card is not used, but cash is paid? What happens when there is absolutely no way to trace a transaction that doesn't have a name associated with it (as there were here in some instances) and no credit card is used or the number is not provided by the PAC or other reporting entity."
- Mr. Frush acknowledged that "in hindsight, at best, FedEx was required to keep records identified with the PAC and the PAC names associated with MISS or whatever name is registered as the PDC if the purchases had been made in that name. If you want these transactions to be maintained and discovered by the Commercial Advertiser, you need to require the PAC or reporting identity to identify the transaction to FedEx as a reportable political expense and have it listed in the name of the reporting entity."
- On May 27, 2020, Ms. Robbins sent an email to Mr. Finley attaching the three spreadsheets "showing all MISS-reported transactions occurring at the FedEx Office Bellevue store." The email also stated: "We believe this production satisfies our obligations to you under the Washington commercial advertiser rules and regulations."
- The documentation from FedEx in response to the fourth request for inspection of the commercial advertiser provision was provided to the PDC 13 days after staff's May 8 email, and to Mr. Finley 19 days after staff's request for the expenditure information made by MISS, but 155 days after Mr. Finley's December 18, 2019 email request.

Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending (MISS) C-4 and C-6 Reports

- As noted in background section of this Report of Investigation, staff's review found that during the 2019 election, MISS filed Summary Full Campaign Contributions and Expenditures reports (C-4 reports) and Independent Expenditures reports (C-6 reports) disclosing independent expenditures or electioneering communications advertisements that supported and opposed 2019 candidates for the Mercer Island City Council.
- Staff's review found on October 15, 2019, MISS timely filed the 21-Day Pre-General Election C-4 report disclosing \$3,448 in total expenditures that included a \$1,433 expenditure made to FedEx on October 3, 2019, listing the description as "Mailer, letter and envelopes"; and a \$949 expenditure made to Sound Publishing on October 3, 2019, listing the description as "10/9 Full Page Color Ad."
- On October 29, 2019, MISS timely filed the 7-Day Pre-General Election C-4 report disclosing a \$20,197.24 in total expenditures, minus a \$4,385 refund for one of the expenditures. The MISS expenditures included on the C-4 report: (1) a \$5,201.90 expenditure made to FedEx on October 21, 2019, for a half page mailer; (2) a \$4,241 expenditure made to FedEx on October 23, 2019, for a quarter page mailer; (3) a \$2,815 expenditure made to FedEx on October 28, 2019, for a half page mailer; and (4) three \$949 expenditures made to Sound Publishing, including two expenditures on October 15, 2019, and one expenditure on October 24, 2019, and listing the descriptions as "10/16, 10/23 and 10/30 Full Page Ads."
- The expenditure descriptions for the mailers and newspaper advertisements disclosed on both the 21-Day and 7-Day Pre-General Election C-4 reports failed to identify the expenditures were for an independent expenditure or electioneering communication advertisement. In addition, both C-4 reports failed to identify any of the Mercer Island City Council candidates supported or opposed by the advertisements, the date of the mailer, or the number of mail pieces printed and mailed.
- Staff's review also found that on November 4, 2019, MISS filed four C-6 reports, checking boxes #1, #2, and #3 indicating that the expenditures were for Independent Expenditures of \$100 or more, Independent Expenditure Advertisements of more than \$1,000 undertaken within 21 days of an election, and Electioneering Communications. The C-6 reports disclosed the following expenditures made by MISS:
 - 1. A \$1,433 expenditure was made to FedEx on October 3, 2019, to print a letter and envelopes for an electioneering communication advertisement that was presented to the public on October 11, 2019 and supported or opposed ten 2019 candidates for Mercer Island City Council. MISS was required to file a C-6 report within 24 hours of the advertisements being presented to the public, or no later than October 12, 2020. The expenditure information was disclosed 23 days late on a C-6 report.
 - 2. A \$5,201,90 expenditure was made to FedEx on October 21, 2019, to print a half page mailer for an independent expenditure advertisement of more than \$1,000 that was presented to the public on October 25, 2019. The advertisement was in support of Daniel Jacobsen and in opposition to Deborah Bertlin, two candidates for Mercer Island City Council, and MISS was required to file a C-6 report no later than October 26, 2020. The expenditure information was disclosed nine days late on a C-6 report.

- 3. Four \$949 expenditures totaling \$3,796 were made to Sound Publishing by MISS for four full page independent expenditure newspaper advertisements that appeared in the Mercer Island Reporter, all in support of five 2019 candidates for Mercer Island City Council. MISS failed to timely disclose four independent expenditure newspaper advertisements on C-6 reports. The information which was filed between nine and 19 days late included:
 - A \$949 expenditure made on October 3, 2019, for a newspaper advertisement that was presented to the public on 10/9.
 - Two \$949 expenditures were made on October 15, 2019, for newspaper advertisements that were presented to the public on 10/16 and 10/23.
 - One expenditure made on October 23, 2019, for a newspaper advertisement presented to the public on October 26, 2019.
- On December 16, 2020, PDC staff filed a staff generated complaint against MISS based on the late-filed information listed above alleging violations of: (1) RCW 42.17A.240 by failing to provide the required expenditure details for independent expenditures and electioneering communications undertaken by MISS during the 2019 election cycle; and (2) RCW 42.17A.260 and .305 by failing to timely file C-6 reports disclosing independent expenditure and electioneering communication activities undertaken in support of or opposition to candidates for Mercer Island City Council during the 2019 election cycle.

III. Scope

- 1. PDC staff reviewed the following:
 - The December 5, 2019 complaint and exhibits including emails filed by Steve Finley against FedEx.
 - Email exchanges between Mr. Finley and FedEx attorneys.
 - Email exchanges between Mr. Finley and PDC staff concerning this matter.
 - The Summary Full Campaign Contributions and Expenditures reports (C-4 reports) and Independent Expenditure reports (C-6 reports) filed by Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending.
 - The emailed responses and telephone conversations between PDC staff, and James Frush and Maia Robbins, attorneys with the law firm Corr Cronin, LLP representing Federal Express.
- 2. PDC staff queried the PDC expenditure database for the expenditures made to Federal Express by Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending, and other candidates and political committees during calendar year 2019.

IV. Statutes and Rules

- RCW 42.17A.005(10) defines commercial advertiser to mean "any person that sells the service of communicating messages or producing material for broadcast or distribution to the general public or segments of the general public whether through brochures, fliers, newspapers, magazines, television, radio, billboards, direct mail advertising, printing, paid internet or digital communications, or any other means of mass communications used for the purpose of appealing, directly or indirectly, for votes or for financial or other support in any election campaign."
- RCW 42.17A.345 states in part: "(1) Each commercial advertiser who has accepted or provided political advertising or electioneering communications during the election campaign shall maintain current books of account and related materials as provided by rule that shall be open for public inspection during normal business hours during the campaign and for a period of no less than five years after the date of the applicable election. The documents and books of account shall specify: (a) The names and addresses of persons from whom it accepted political advertising or electioneering communications; (b) The exact nature and extent of the services rendered; and (c) The total cost and the manner of payment for the services."
- WAC 390-18-050(1) defines commercial advertisers as "any person, as defined in the act, including individuals and entities, that sells the service of communicating messages or producing material for broadcast or distribution to the general public or segments of the general public whether through brochures, fliers...direct mail advertising, printing...or any other means of mass communications used for the purpose of appealing, directly or indirectly for votes or for financial or other support in any election campaign."
 - (3) Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.345, each commercial advertiser who has accepted or provided political advertising, or electioneering communications, as defined in RCW 42.17A.005, must maintain current books of account and related materials as required by this section. Until such time as the PDC provides an open access platform on its website for this information, which will replace the following methods of inspection for all required information, such information must be available for public inspection by any person, and provided: (a) In person during normal business hours; or (b) Electronically, in machine readable format and structured in a way that enables the data to be fully discoverable and useable by the end user: (i) By digital transmission, such as email, promptly upon request."
 - (4) Information regarding political advertising or electioneering communications must be made available within twenty-four hours of the time when the advertisement or communication initially has been publicly distributed or broadcast, and within twenty-four hours of any update or change to such information. Such records must be maintained for a period of no less than five years after the date of the applicable election.
 - (5) The information and books of account that must be maintained open for public inspection pursuant to RCW 42.17A.345 are: (a) The name of the candidate or ballot measure supported or opposed or the name of the candidate otherwise identified, and whether the advertising or communication supports or opposes the candidate or ballot measure; (b) The name and address of the sponsoring person or persons actually paying for the advertising or electioneering communication, including the federal employee

identification number, or other verifiable identification, if any, of an entity, so that the public can know Certified on 1/23/2020 WAC 390-18-050 Page 1 who paid for the advertising or communication, without having to locate and identify any affiliated entities; (c) The total cost of the advertising or electioneering communication, or initial cost estimate if the total cost is not available upon initial distribution or broadcast, how much of that amount has been paid, as updated, who made the payment, when it was paid, and what method of payment was used; and (d) Date(s) the commercial advertiser rendered service.

(6) In addition to subsection (5) of this section and pursuant to RCW 42.17A.345, the materials and books of account open for public inspection must include the political advertisement or electioneering communication itself, and a description of the major work components or tasks, as specified in (a) through (g) of this subsection, that were required to provide the advertising or communications services. (a) For printers, reproducers and other persons who provide commercial duplicating services: Quantity of items, item description, design, layout, typesetting, photography, printing, silk screening, binding. (b) For mailing services: Quantity of items mailed, binding, stuffing, labeling, list or directory services, postage or delivery.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of February 2021.

Electronically Signed Kurt Young PDC Compliance Officer

List of Exhibits

Exhibit 1: October 25, 2019, email and letter from James Frush, Of Counsel attorney with Corr Cronin, LLP, sent to the PDC on behalf of his client FedEx, concerning a citizen request to inspect records of political advertising.

Exhibit 2: December 5, 2019, complaint filed by Steve Finley against FedEx alleging violations of RCW 42.17A.345 as a commercial advertiser.

Exhibit 3: October 18, 2019, email from PDC staff sent to the FedEx Bellevue Office of copying and printing concerning commercial advertisers and public inspection of documents under RCW 42.17A.345.

Exhibit 4: December 19, 2019, FedEx initial response to the complaint with three exhibits that included two separate email strings, and copies of three receipts for FedEx services provided to Mike Cero.

Exhibit 5: January 10, 2020, FedEx response letter to a January 2, 2020 email from PDC staff requesting additional information from FedEx and attaching exhibits that included copies of two Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending mailings printed by FedEx, and an email string between FedEx legal counsel and Mr. Finley.

Exhibit 6: May 8 through 18, 2020, email string between PDC staff and Ms. Robbins and Mr. Frush concerning Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending expenditures made to FedEx during the 2019 election cycle.

Exhibit 7:

May 21, 2020, email from Mr. Frush to PDC staff indicating FedEx found responsive information concerning the services provided to Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending for the six additional expenditures listed in the May 8th email from staff. The email also attached three spreadsheets of data showing the services provided at the FedEx Office in Bellevue store for the Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending political advertisements (due to the size of the spreadsheets with more than 160 columns only the October 2019 spreadsheet is included as part of the exhibit).

Exhibit 8:

Copies of the Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending 21-Day and 7-Day Pre-General Election Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports).

CORR CRONIN | LLP

JIM FRUSH Of Counsel

(206) 399-2659 jfrush@corrcronin.com | jfrush@cablelang.com

October 25, 2019

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

(pdc@pdc.wa.gov)

Washington State Public Disclosure Commission 711 Capitol Way S. #206 P.O. Box 40908 Olympia, WA 98504-0908

Attention: Chip Beatty

Re: Citizen Request of FedEx Office for Inspectional Request for Production

Dear Mr. Beatty,

I want to follow up to our telephone conversation of October 22, 2019. As you know, we represent FedEx Office and Print Services ("FedEx Office"), the recipient of a private individuals' demand for inspection and production of records concerning a customer of FedEx Office. My client and I appreciate the opportunity to address these matters and hopefully resolve them satisfactorily. We also seek guidance from the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission Staff ("PDC") on how to proceed in the future.

The question is whether FedEx Office qualifies as a "commercial advertiser" for the purpose of Washington's campaign finance law, and whether FedEx Office is required by RCW 42.17A.345 to produce documents.

I. FedEx Office

FedEx Corporation is one of the largest shipping companies in the world. In 2004, FedEx Corporation purchased printing and copying supply company Kinko's, eventually renaming the company "FedEx Office." Available at https://about.van.fedex.com/our-story/history-timeline/history/opco-office/.

FedEx Office's stated public purpose is to "provide access to a wide variety of world-class printing services, including professional copying and finishing, document creation, signs, banners and graphics, as well as a full range of commercial print solutions." Available at

1001 FOURTH AVENUE, SUITE 3900 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98154-1051
TEL 206,625.8600 FAX 206.625.0900 WWW.CORRCRONIN.COM

https://about.van.fedex.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/FX_Corp_Brochure2019.pdf. FedEx Office assists customers ranging from individuals to larger businesses with their printing needs, including printing marketing materials for a variety of businesses. Available at https://www.fedex.com/en-us/printing.html.

FedEx Office is not a political consulting firm, advisor, or participant in campaign matters, or otherwise interested or active in political campaigns. While FedEx Office may copy documents for political activists or provide mailing or shipping services for them, it has no interest in the content of their communications and does provide an advertising base for them.

II. Analysis

RCW 42.17A.345 provides particular requirements for "commercial advertisers" (as defined in RCW 42.17A.005(10)) to maintain and provide public inspection as follows:

Each commercial advertiser who has accepted or provided political advertising or electioneering communications during the election campaign shall maintain current books of account and related materials as provided by rule that shall be open for public inspection during normal business hours during the campaign and for a period of no less than five years after the date of the applicable election. The documents and books of account shall specify:

- (a) The names and addresses of persons from whom it accepted political advertising or electioneering communications;
- (b) The exact nature and extent of the services rendered; and
- (c) The total cost and the manner of payment for the services.

RCW 42.17A.345. A commercial advertiser must comply with any public and PDC requests for the above-listed information. RCW 42.17A.345.

As is evident, the law applies only to "commercial advertisers." A "commercial advertiser" is defined as:

[A]ny person that sells the service of communicating messages or producing material for broadcast or distribution to the general public or segments of the general public whether through brochures, fliers, newspapers, magazines, television, radio, billboards, direct mail advertising, printing, paid internet or digital communications, or any other means of mass communications used for the purpose of appealing, directly or indirectly, for votes or for financial or other support in any election campaign.

RCW 42.17A.005(10). FedEx Office does not qualify as a "commercial advertiser" subject to the disclosure requirements of Washington law for several reasons. In addition, it would be unduly burdensome if not oppressive to apply these provisions to FedEx Office for many logical and public policy reasons.

A. FedEx Office does not sell or provide the service of political advertising.

FedEx Office does not fall under the definition of a "commercial advertiser" because it does not "provide[] political advertising or electioneering communications." *See* RCW 42.17A.345. FedEx Office is a printing company that "provide[s] access to a wide variety of world-class printing services, including professional copying and finishing, document creation, signs, banners and graphics, as well as a full range of commercial print solutions." Available at https://about.van.fedex.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/FX_Corp_Brochure2019.pdf. FedEx Office does *not* purport to sell advertisements or materials specifically "used for the purpose of appealing... for votes or for financial or other support in any election campaign." RCW 42.17A.005(10). Instead, FedEx Office sells generalized printing services—in fact, unless the material to be printed is open and obviously illegal or inappropriate, it is FedEx Office's policy not to closely examine or identify the nature of a customer's printing or design projects. The company prides itself on protecting customer privacy and complying with privacy laws.

Independently, FedEx Office also provides a mailing and delivery service equally blind to content. FedEx Office is therefore generally unaware of and has no influence over the type of advertising its customers are printing or which they want delivered. FedEx Office does not cater its services to advertising for political campaigns; its services are that of a generalized printing, shipping, and tracking company as identified above.

B. The Washington state legislature specifically excluded printing companies when drafting the definition of "commercial advertiser."

As a printing company, the legislative history of RCW 42.17A.005(10) rejects FedEx Office's inclusion as a commercial advertiser. As of 2010, the definition of "commercial advertiser" read:

"Commercial advertiser" means any person who sells the service of communicating messages or producing printed material for broadcast or distribution to the general public . . . through the use of . . . printing companies, or otherwise.

Public Officers and Agencies—Campaign Finance—Laws on Contribution, 2010 Wash. Legis. Serv. Ch. 204 (S.S.H.B. 2016) (Westlaw) (emphasis added). This definition clarifies that a "commercial advertiser" is *not* a printing company such as FedEx Office in and of itself. Instead, a "commercial advertiser" is a person or company who *utilizes* a printing company or other printing services to communicate messages. Thus, the legislature specifically excluded printing

companies under this definition, instead choosing to place the label of a "commercial advertiser" on the *customers* who utilize the printing company instead of the company itself. As a printing company, the legislature intended FedEx Office to be excluded from this definition.

The legislature's most recent revisions to this statute maintain the integrity of this exclusion. On April 25, 2019, the legislature streamlined the language of RCW 42.17A.005(10) by removing the word "companies" and adding that the applicable communicated messages must be made "for the purpose of appealing . . . for votes or for financial or other support in any election campaign." H.B. 1195, 66th Leg., 1st Reg. Sess. (Wash. 2019); see also RCW 42.17A.005(10). The revisions maintain the language that a "commercial advertiser" is someone who specifically sells his or her services of communicating messages by utilizing print or other media. RCW 42.17A.005(10). It does not include printing or delivery companies such as FedEx. Additionally, as outlined in detail above, FedEx Office does not sell advertising for the purpose of appealing for votes in or providing financial support to an election campaign. The added specification therefore provides even further evidence that FedEx Office is to be excluded from the definition of a "commercial advertiser." In sum, the legislative intent and revisions to the definition of "commercial advertiser" clearly exclude printing and delivery companies like FedEx.

C. FedEx Office is easily distinguished from the PDC's other investigations for violations of RCW 42.17A.345.

PDC's prior investigations suggest the conclusion that FedEx Office is not the type of company that would qualify as a "commercial advertiser." Most recently, the PDC has investigated companies such as Facebook and Google for violations of RCW 42.17A.345, as well as The Olympian, a newspaper based in Olympia, Washington. Available at https://www.pdc.wa.gov/search?search_api_views_fulltext=RCW%2042.17A.345&f%5B0%5D=type%3Aenforcement_case. These companies all serve as commercial entities that sell political advertising space for campaigns. See id. In contrast, FedEx Office does not sell the service of advertisement. Instead, it sells the service of printing, delivery, shipping, and tracking. While FedEx Office could sell its service of printing advertisements for another entity, it is not FedEx

Both Facebook and Google allege that they have stopped accepting political advertisements targeting Washington State and local elections. Available at https://pdc-case-tracking.s3-us-gov-west-lamazonaws.com/2121/48424%20Google%20LLC%20%282%29%20Response.pdf; https://pdc-case-tracking.s3-us-gov-west-

^{1.}amazonaws.com/2119/48307%20Facebook%20Inc%20%284%29%20Response.pdf. However, both companies continue to sell other advertisements on their forums, therefore it is appropriate to categorize both companies as entities that sell their advertising services. *See* https://support.google.com/adspolicy/topic/1626336?hl=en&ref_topic=2996750,1308156; https://www.facebook.com/ads/manager/creation/creation/?act=475649303029681. The Olympian sold its services of running political advertisements to a political candidate. Available at https://www.pdc.wa.gov/browse/cases/47514.

Office that is the commercial advertiser in that scenario, it is the entity producing the advertisements for distribution. The PDC's investigations of these other companies reflect the real and intended definition of "commercial advertiser:" a person or entity that sells it service of political advertising. A printing or delivery company that does not sell advertisements is therefore not a "commercial advertiser."

D. Logic and public policy require the conclusion that FedEx Office is not a "commercial advertiser" under the statutes.

Applying these statutes to FedEx Office would be unduly burdensome if not oppressive to the company, potentially resulting in some absurd situations, would not fulfill or further public policy behind campaign disclosure laws and could provide an opportunity for individuals to abuse FedEx Office and the privacy of FedEx Office customers.

FedEx Office frequently provides copying services in a self-serve manner. The customer enters the store, gains access to a copy machine, makes the copies, pays FedEx Office, and leaves. FedEx Office has no exposure or knowledge of what was copied or whether it contained information or content that might be political in nature. To apply these statutes to FedEx Office would mean that it would need to police all of its copy customers and determine whether they were copying materials that were used for electioneering.

The same analysis relates to customers bringing already copied materials to FedEx Office for mailing or delivery. These materials may already be in envelopes prior to being brought to FedEx Office. Accordingly, FedEx Office is not generally aware of the content of these materials and should not be put to a requirement that it inquire. Such requirement would be unduly burdensome to FedEx Office, offensive to its customers, and not in furtherance of the campaign finance disclosure laws. As noted above, FedEx Office works diligently to respect the privacy of its customers. To that end, its employees are instructed, to the extent they have no notice that any materials are illegal or offensive, not to make themselves aware of the content of the materials it copies and delivers.

We appreciate that there are two distinct activities at issue here. First, the copying, and second, the delivering of the materials. We do believe that it makes sense to analyze them separately. Their combination should not make any difference. RCW 42.17A.005(10) (the definitional section) lists some dozen different activities, two of which are direct mail and printing. The manner in which the activities are listed does not support the view that certain combinations would somehow render an activity covered when otherwise it was not covered. It is neither logical nor appropriate to penalize a combination when the activities separately would not be. Furthermore, FedEx Office staff engaging in one type of activity may be unaware of what other service FedEx Office may be providing. An additional burden on FedEx Office to somehow segregate jobs which are multifaceted is neither supported by the statute nor workable from a business standpoint.

The five-year requirement under RCW 42.17A.345 that would require FedEx Office, if considered a commercial advertiser, would require, after these intrusive and burdensome efforts on FedEx' Office's part, to maintain for "no less than five years after the date of the applicable election" the documents and books of account relating to these communications. Again, FedEx Office is unaware of any particular election or when the date of those elections would occur. This is another strong logical and underpinning to conclude that these statutes should not apply to FedEx Office's situation. Moreover, it would be ridiculously time consuming and expensive to maintain records of this type for a period of five years.

There are also the privacy concerns of FedEx Office customers. As you know, in this particular situation relating to election activities on Mercer Island, the FedEx Office customer has objected to FedEx Office providing the documents and books of account to a political opponent of the customer. To treat FedEx Office as a commercial advertiser would put a neutral and completely innocent party between two adversaries and would also potentially chill the activities of a potential FedEx Office customer. We appreciate that the legislature, in its wisdom, made these materials "open for public inspection during normal business hours." We think that allowing anyone to come in and demand access to the books of account relating to a FedEx Office customer is improper. The fact that the statute does provide for public inspection underscores that FedEx Office is not a commercial advertiser as certainly the legislature would not have and could not have intended that a private citizen could simply walk into FedEx Office and ask for its books of account for a list of two or three dozen reporting entities or campaign electioneering activists.

This common sense approach employing logic and public policy behind the campaign finance laws should also, we trust, cause you to conclude that FedEx Office is not a commercial advertiser under the statutes.

III. Conclusion

We believe that the discussion above should cause you for legal, logical, and public policy reasons to conclude that FedEx Office is not a commercial advertiser under the statutes at issue. We hope you endorse our client in doing business as usual and let us, without intervention on FedEx Office's part, continue to provide low cost services to the public.

My client and I stand ready at any time to further discuss these matters with you, provide further information about FedEx Office policies and procedures, and to work with you to reach a mutually successful conclusion which makes sense on the legal, logical, and policy levels we've discussed. As you know, the political entities involved in employing services of copying and delivery services are required to report the expenditures and citizens can always file complaints with the PDC which could result in the PDC subpoenaing these materials from FedEx Office, if they existed, which would not be resisted at any time under normal circumstances. To extrapolate these statutes in the fashion suggested by Mr. Finley is simply wrong and unsustainable.

Again, thank you for your consideration. We stand ready to communicate with you further on these issues if it would be helpful.

Very truly yours,

C. James Frush Maia Robbins

cc: Client

Complaint Description

Steve Finley (Thu, 5 Dec 2019 at 11:33 AM)

I made a request to inspect records of thousands of campaign mailers printed for Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending by FedEx located at 40 Bellevue Way, Bellevue, WA 98004.

I made the request to Angela (the manager) on October 18, 2019 by phone according to an email I sent to the PDC. Her phone number is 425-451-1055.

I was denied the opportunity. I contacted the PDC and your staff informed FedEx of their responsibility under the law and they still refused to let me see the records. Lawyers representing FedEx (formally Kinko's) have exchanged several letters and/or emails with FedEx's lawyers.

FedEx has offered so send me some of the information via email but what they have sent may be incorrect because dates to match C-4 & C-6 reports filed by MISS.

This complaint is against the "printing" division of FedEx, not the package delivery division.

Also, the complaint is not about small print jobs or copies. It is about mailers that are sent to thousands and thousands of households.

Finally, the exchange of letters between lawyers were between FedEx and the PDC's lawyer.

What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?

The public was denied the opportunity to know what Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending (MISS) was doing because MISS had violated PDC rules by failing to file correct C-4 reports or timely or all C-6 reports and inspecting records at FedEx would be the only way to find out. Some C-6 reports for MISS were filed on November 14, 2019 and 21, 2019 but as of 5 pm on December 4, 2019 some of their C-6 have still not been filed.

List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found.

The letters between the lawyers and FedEx were sent directly to the PDC as was the response from the PDC to FedEx.

All of the emails were either sent by or sent to Chip Beatty and/or Sean Flynn or there were cc'ed on them.

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them.

Chip Beatty, Kim Bradford, & Sean Flynn of the PDC Staff

Complaint Certification:

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Steve Finley (Thu, 5 Dec 2019 at 11:25 AM)

Here is one of the email chains.

From: Steve Finley <steve-finley@comcast.net> **Sent:** Wednesday, December 4, 2019 4:08 PM **To:** 'Robbins, Maia' <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Cc: 'Frush, Jim' <jfrush@corrcronin.com>; 'sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov' <sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov>;

'chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov' <chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

I requested information about the mailing done by MISS and reported to the PDC by Mr. Cero on reports he filed with the PDC.

From: Robbins, Maia <<u>mrobbins@corrcronin.com</u>> **Sent:** Wednesday, December 4, 2019 3:44 PM **To:** Steve Finley <<u>steve-finley@comcast.net</u>>

Cc: Frush, Jim < <u>ifrush@corrcronin.com</u>>; <u>sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov</u>; <u>chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov</u>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Mr. Finley,

You requested information specifically pertaining to individual Mike Cero, and that is the information I have provided. As I have relayed to you in my emails, we cannot—and are not required to—produce information apart from services provided to a particular individual. If you are concerned with the C4 forms, we would recommend that you work with the PDC and the MISS on a resolution to those issues.

Maia Robbins

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net] **Sent:** Wednesday, December 04, 2019 12:43 PM **To:** Robbins, Maia <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Cc: Frush, Jim < <u>ifrush@corrcronin.com</u>>; <u>sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov</u>; <u>chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov</u>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

The information you have provided does not appear to be accurate.

According to the C-4 reports they filed with the PDC for the period of October 15th to October 28th, they paid for a half page mailer on 10/15; another half page mailer on 10/21; a quarter page mailer on 10/23; and a half page mailer on 10/28. So two are missing and none of them correspond with any of the dates you have listed below.

Also, on their C-4 for the period of September 1st to October 14th they do not list a mailing on October 13th. However, they do list one for October 3rd.

From: Robbins, Maia <<u>mrobbins@corrcronin.com</u>> **Sent:** Wednesday, December 4, 2019 11:42 AM **To:** Steve Finley <<u>steve-finley@comcast.net</u>>

Cc: Frush, Jim < <u>ifrush@corrcronin.com</u>>; <u>sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov</u>; <u>chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov</u>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Mr. Finley,

I was able to acquire the remaining information that may be disclosed publicly regarding Mike Cero's orders with FedEx Office. The dates of the transactions and the quantities of items printed and mailed are listed by date below.

10/13/2019

2 double-sided printed pages 2500 pages printed and mailed

10/24/2019

14,000 postcards printed 7,742 postcards (out of the 14,000 printed) mailed

10/29/2019

5,524 postcards printed and mailed

This email and our November 21, 2019 email have provided you with all the information to which you are entitled under the Washington statutes and regulations. As such, this transmission completely fulfills our obligations under these requirements.

Sincerely,

Maia Robbins

From: Robbins, Maia

Sent: Wednesday, December 04, 2019 8:43 AM **To:** 'Steve Finley' < steve-finley@comcast.net >

Cc: Frush, Jim < <u>ifrush@corrcronin.com</u>>; <u>sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov</u>; <u>chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov</u>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Mr. Finley,

Thank you for your email. I am still in the process of obtaining the quantities of the items printed by Mike Cero and the dates on which the transactions took place, and hope to get you that information by the end of the week.

I wanted to clarify our role in assisting you with obtaining the information you requested in your last email. In regards to your first request, FedEx Office is unable to process requests based on the

content of the materials processed. This is because the content of flyers is not subject to public disclosure under Washington's campaign finance statutes and regulations. Accordingly, I am unable to obtain information regarding mailers or flyers that support specific candidates. If you have the names of the person(s) who purchased and used FedEx Office's services, we can address that request.

We believe the PDC would be best suited to address your issues with the disclaimer. As we spoke about on the phone last week, assuming FedEx Office is a commercial advertiser—which it disputes—in accordance with WAC 390-18-050 and RCW 42.17A.345, FedEx Office need only disclose limited information to the public. This information exhaustively includes: the name and address of the person using the service, the nature and extent of the service rendered, the costs and method of payment for the service, the quantity of items printed or mailed, and the dates on which the transactions for these services took place. Thus, any information beyond the aforementioned is not subject to public disclosure, including any information contained on items printed and mailed by FedEx Office, such as the disclaimer you listed. If you are concerned with the disclaimer, we would recommend you contact the PDC and work with them and the Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending on a resolution to those issues.

Thank you,

Maia Robbins

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net] **Sent:** Wednesday, November 27, 2019 10:08 AM **To:** Robbins, Maia <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Cc: Frush, Jim < <u>jfrush@corrcronin.com</u>>; <u>sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov</u>; <u>chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov</u>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Here is the name of the other Mercer Island candidate who had mailers printed at the FedEx in Bellevue – Daniel Thompson.

In addition to supporting Jake Jacobson, I would like to know what mailers paid for by Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending (MISS) supported Dan (or Daniel) Thompson; Jon Hanlon; Lisa Anderl; and Heather Jordan Cartwright in addition to Jake Jacobson. Or opposed Dave Rosenbaum, Wendy Weiker, Patrick Allcorn, Craig Reynolds, or Debbie Bertlin. It is my understanding that there was at least one mailing that promoted all five of them.

Also, MISS was an independent expenditure committee and the law says it must include a disclaimer pointing that out. This disclaimer must read:

"No candidate authorized this ad. It is paid for by (name and address of committee). Top 5 contributors: (list of contributors)."

I would like to know what mailing this full disclaimer appears on all of the mailers paid for by MISS and who the top five contributors are on all of them. This information can change as more contributions are accepted.

Below are links to the PDCs website for the C-4 forms filed by MISS. There are at least five mailings. However, because they have not filed reports on time or accurately there may be more.

http://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?repno=100942341

http://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?repno=100937656

Thank you.

From: Robbins, Maia <<u>mrobbins@corrcronin.com</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 9:37 AM
To: Steve Finley <<u>steve-finley@comcast.net</u>>
Cc: Frush, Jim <<u>ifrush@corrcronin.com</u>>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Hi Mr. Finley,

Thank you for speaking to me on the phone this morning! As we discussed, it is FedEx Office's position that we do not qualify as a "commercial advertiser" for the purposes of disclosing campaign finance information to the public. However, I am in the process of acquiring the information regarding the quantities of items that were printed and mailed by Mike Cero that you have requested in accordance with WAC 390-18-050. And, as we discussed, if you seek information regarding other individuals, you may email me a list of specific individuals and FedEx office will review the request.

I will be in touch with you once I have acquired this information from FedEx Office, likely Friday afternoon or early next week.

Thank you for your patience in my response to your original email, and have a great Thanksgiving!

Maia

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 10:36 AM **To:** Robbins, Maia < <u>mrobbins@corrcronin.com</u>>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Understand completely.

Sometime before 11 am on Wednesday works for me.

From: Robbins, Maia <<u>mrobbins@corrcronin.com</u>> **Sent:** Tuesday, November 26, 2019 10:23 AM

To: steve-finley@comcast.net

Subject: Voicemail

Mr. Finley,

I received your voicemail but am in a mediation all day today and will be unable to call back until tomorrow. I apologize for the delay. I will give you a call tomorrow morning sometime before 11 if that works for you. Please let me know.

Maia Robbins | Attorney

CORR CRONIN | LLP

1001 Fourth Avenue | Suite 3900 | Seattle, WA 98154 P: 206-625-8600 | D: 206-652-8656 | F: 206-625-0900 mrobbins@corrcronin.com | www.corrcronin.com

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Fox Blackhorn

From: Chip Beatty

Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 3:05 PM **To:** Angela.breeding@fedex.com

Subject: RCW 42.17A.345 Commercial advertisers—Public inspection of documents—Copies to commission.

Angela,

Regarding advertising/printing which was done by Mike Cero on behalf of Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending;

You are required to allow the public inspection of the records for the political advertising under RCW 42.17A.345.

Commercial advertisers—Public inspection of documents—Copies to commission.

- (1) Each commercial advertiser who has accepted or provided political advertising or electioneering communications during the election campaign shall maintain current books of account and related materials as provided by rule that shall be open for public inspection during normal business hours during the campaign and for a period of no less than five years after the date of the applicable election. The documents and books of account shall specify:
- (a) The names and addresses of persons from whom it accepted political advertising or electioneering communications;
 - (b) The exact nature and extent of the services rendered; and
 - (c) The total cost and the manner of payment for the services.
- (2) At the request of the commission, each commercial advertiser required to comply with subsection (1) of this section shall provide to the commission copies of the information that must be maintained and be open for public inspection pursuant to subsection (1) of this section.

Regarding the inspection: this is to be done regardless of approval or disapproval by the person who booked the order. Please make these records available immediately.

Chip Beatty Training Program Administrator Public Disclosure Commission (360) 586-0616

CORR CRONIN | LLP

JIM FRUSH Of Counsel

MAIA ROBBINS Attorney

(206) 399-2659 jfrush@corrcronin.com | jfrush@cablelang.com

December 19, 2019

VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Fox Blackhorn pdc@pdc.wa.gov

Re: PDC Case No. 60811 - FedEx Office

Dear Mx. Blackhorn:

We represent FedEx Office and are writing today to respond to the complaint from Steve Finley dated December 5, 2019. In the complaint, Mr. Finley alleges that FedEx Office violated RCW 42.17A.345 and WAC 390-18-050 for failure to provide documents regarding "the exact nature and extent of political advertising services rendered, within 24 hours of request from any person." FedEx Office respectfully submits that it has always made a good faith effort to comply and has complied completely with Mr. Finley's requests for information.

As you know, once counsel was involved, FedEx Office consulted immediately with the PDC and sought guidance as to its responsibilities under the statute and regulations. FedEx Office worked to obtain the information Mr. Finley sought and disburse it to him in as timely a manner as possible after receiving guidance from the PDC. To the extent FedEx Office's responses were delayed, it was due to FedEx Office's consulting with independent counsel and PDC counsel as to how to proceed. Additionally, the information provided to Mr. Finley was accurate, as reflected by the receipts attached as an exhibit to this response. Even if Mr. Finley believes that the information reported on the Mercer Island Sustainable Spending (MISS) C-4 forms is inaccurate as he alleges in his complaint, it is not FedEx Office's responsibility to corroborate or contradict those filings. FedEx Office feels it has complied to its best extent possible with the laws, and regrets any unintentional errors and/or delay in its responses.

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A. FedEx Office complied with Mr. Finley's request for information pertaining to Mike Cero.

FedEx Office made a good-faith effort to comply—and did comply—with Mr. Finley's requests, ultimately sending him the information he was entitled to under the Washington campaign finance statutes and regulations. Prior to Mr. Finley filing his formal complaint, FedEx Office had numerous exchanges both with Mr. Finley and PDC staff as detailed below.

On October 15, 2019, the store manager at FedEx Office location #5135¹ in Bellevue, Washington received an email from "Bob Brooks" at email account b2b2b2b2@comcast.net. This email stated: "A political Action Committee called 'Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending' ordered envelopes, letters . . . from you and paid for it on October 3, 2019 and the total was \$1,433." Mr. Brooks sought to review the records pertaining specifically to this transaction. On October 18, 2019, the manager for this store location then emailed her district manager, stating that Bob Brooks and Mr. Finley (the citizen complainant) had called FedEx Office and stated that the relevant documents they wished to inspect were specifically produced for an individual named Mike Cero. The store manager then informed Mr. Finley that she would need to do some research regarding his request, but he told her that "at this time it was the law," and that she needed to allow him access. The store manager again told Mr. Finley she would call him back after she sought out the needed information. This was a novel experience for FedEx Office, which had never previously received requests for this type of information.

Puzzled, the store manager sought advice from her district manager—who is not an attorney—as to how to respond. Because one of FedEx Office's core policy principles is to maintain client confidences as to all client information, the store manager contacted Mr. Cero for his permission to share his information with Mr. Finley. Mr. Cero refused. The store manager then immediately consulted with and sought help from FedEx Office's legal department as to how to address this novel situation.

Later that same day, PDC representative Chip Beatty contacted the FedEx Office Bellevue store. FedEx Office's legal team began researching these issues immediately to respond to Mr. Finley's requests for information pertaining to Mr. Cero. Within a day, FedEx Office legal counsel retained our firm to serve as counsel and provide advice as to how to proceed. Counsel understood that Mr. Beatty was requesting the information, not Mr. Finley. Immediately upon being retained, Mr. Frush called Phil Stutzman and Mr. Beatty. He left a message for Mr. Beatty, but reached Mr. Stutzman. Mr. Frush indicated to Mr. Stutzman that we represented FedEx Office and were working on the issues.

Once we were retained as counsel, we worked with the client to obtain further information and advised the PDC that we would be making a submission as to whether FedEx Office should be considered a "commercial advertiser" under Washington's campaign finance laws. Within about a

⁴⁰ Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA 98004.

PDC Staff December 19, 2019

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week, we submitted a formal memorandum as to whether we were subject to the statutes and regulations. Within another week, we were advised that the PDC staff considered FedEx Office to be within the definition of a "commercial advertiser," and we immediately took steps to obtain and produce the information to Mr. Finley.

On November 21, 2019, Ms. Robbins emailed Mr. Finley the following information in compliance with RCW 42.17A.345 (see Exh. 1):

- (1) The names and addresses of persons from whom FedEx Office accepted political advertising or electioneering communications: Mike Cero, Mercer Island Sustainable Spending, 8300 Avalon Drive, Mercer Island, WA 98040.
- (2) The exact nature and extent of the services rendered: Mailers supporting candidate Jake Jacobson for Mercer Island City Council: Position 7 on behalf of the Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending Campaign.
- (3) The total cost and manner of payments for the services: There were 3 payments made for this project on a Visa card in the amounts of: \$4,240.52; \$2,815.18; and \$1,433.30.

That same day, Mr. Finley responded to this email demanding to "inspect all mailers for all candidates on Mercer Island." *Id.* This request was inconsistent with his original request for documents pertaining to the transactions only with Mr. Cero. Mr. Finley also requested "the number of each that were printed; see a hard copy or PDF of the actual mailer; know the date it was paid; date ordered; date delivered; and the date mailed." *Id.* FedEx Office and its counsel initiated research into whether Mr. Finley was entitled to this information under Washington law.

On November 26, 2019, Mr. Finley called Ms. Robbins directly. See Exh. 2. She spoke to him on the phone on November 27, 2019 and informed him that she was in the process of obtaining information regarding the quantity of items Mr. Cero purchased and the dates on which the transactions took place. Id. She also advised Mr. Finley that FedEx Office only tracks projects by purchaser—not by content of materials—and we would need the names of individuals who purchased the transactions to find any other requested information. See id. Mr. Finley then responded by demanding that FedEx Office look up and distribute to him all transactions that were paid for by MISS—far exceeding Mr. Finley's original request for information pertaining to Mr. Cero—and requesting to see all mailers on which a particular disclaimer appeared. Id.

For the second time, Ms. Robbins informed Mr. Finley that FedEx Office is unable to process requests based on the content of the materials processed, but that if Mr. Finley provided the names of the individuals who purchased and utilized FedEx Office's services, FedEx Office could address those requests. *Id.* Ms. Robbins then provided Mr. Finley with the information pertaining to the quantity of items printed and mailed as well as the dates of service for Mr. Cero's projects in

PDC Staff December 19, 2019

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accordance with WAC 390-18-050(6)(a)–(b). *Id.* The email contained the following information (see Exh. 2):

10/13/2019

2 double-sided printed pages.

2500 pages printed and mailed.

10/24/2019

14,000 postcards printed.

7,742 postcards (out of the 14,000 printed) mailed.

10/29/2019

5,524 postcards printed and mailed.

Subsequently, Mr. Finley requested copies of the mailers and was supplied with them. Mr. Finley also responded that our information was not correct as it appears to conflict with the C-4 documents filed by MISS. *Id.* He alleges the same in his complaint. However, the information regarding the dates of the transactions and quantities of items printed and mailed are presented in the receipts attached at Exhibit 3 to this response. To the extent MISS's C-4 forms conflict with the receipts from FedEx Office, it is FedEx Office's position that this issue is best addressed by the PDC itself or the filers of the C-4s. FedEx Office believes it has no obligation to corroborate or contradict a political committee's forms. Ms. Robbins informed Mr. Finley of the same. *See* Exh. 2. Mr. Finley then again demanded to see all mailing done by the MISS "and reported to the PDC by Mr. Cero." *Id.* This request was once again inconsistent with his original request for information regarding Mr. Cero, and FedEx Office has no way of knowing what transactions were reported to the PDC by Mr. Cero. FedEx Office believed it had fully complied with the information sought regarding Mr. Cero. Before we responded to this email, Mr. Finley filed a formal complaint with the PDC the next day.

In all, Mr. Finley has burdened FedEx Office's employees and counsel through numerous emails and phone calls, including calling FedEx Office's counsel directly. When FedEx Office attempted to comply with Mr. Finley's requests for information, he would demand more—despite counsel informing him on several occasions that it was unable to obtain the information he sought. Additionally, any demands Mr. Finley set forth that FedEx Office corroborate or contradict forms filed by an unrelated political committee are beyond the scope of FedEx Office's requirements under Washington's campaign finance statutes and regulations. To the extent that Mr. Finley's request originally pertained only to Mike Cero, FedEx Office submits that it complied fully with RCW 42.17A.345 and WAC 390-18-050 in its responses.

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B. Neither Mr. Finley nor the public have suffered harm as a result of FedEx Office's errors.

The violation Mr. Finley has alleged has no impact on him or the public. Mr. Finley's complaint and description of the harm show that he is using FedEx Office as a vehicle to try to substantiate his concerns with the MISS. Mr. Finley believes the MISS misfiled its C-4 and C-6 reports, and alleges that obtaining the records from FedEx Office "would be the only way to find out" if his theory was true. See PDC Complaint. However, this argument is untrue: RCW 42.17A.235(6)(a) provides that a "political committee shall maintain books of account accurately reflecting all contributions and expenditures on a current basis within five business days of receipt or expenditure." These books of record must be kept open for inspection to the public. Id. Thus, Mr. Finley could have obtained the exact information he sought from FedEx Office directly from the MISS itself, but chose to burden FedEx Office instead. Because Mr. Finley had the ability to obtain this information from the MISS,² any delay by FedEx Office in providing the information did not harm him or the public. If the filers of the C-4s and C-6s are not in compliance, this is an issue that Mr. Finley needs to raise with the PDC.

C. There is no requirement for a commercial advertiser to give records within 24 hours of request by a private citizen.

Mr. Finley's complaint FedEx Office failed to provide records "within 24 hours of request from any person" in violation of RCW 42.17A.345 and WAC 390-18-050. FedEx Office submits that while it understands the need for timely responses to information requests, the Washington campaign finance statutes and regulations applicable to commercial advertisers do not require it to present information within 24 hours of any request made by an individual.

There is no 24-hour reporting requirement in RCW 42.17A.345, and neither the complainant nor the PDC staff mentioned this alleged requirement until the formal complaint was filed. WAC 390-18-050(4) reads: "[i]nformation regarding political advertising or electioneering communications must be made available within twenty-four hours of the time when the advertisement or communication initially has been publicly distributed or broadcast, and within twenty-four hours of any update or change to such information." Under this regulation, the only 24-hour requirement for commercial advertisers is to make the information regarding an advertisement or broadcast available in its records within 24-hours of the *transaction* (e.g. the printing or mailing of an advertisement). There is no requirement that FedEx Office disburse information to a private citizen within 24 hours of the *citizen's request*. Ms. Robbins spoke to Mx. Blackhorn on the phone on December 16, 2019 who confirmed our reading of the regulation

FedEx Office notes that in one of the store manager's original emails, Mr. Cero—representative of the MISS—told the manager that "it is a requirement that HE keep records and a book of these documents that should be available for inspection, this is not a responsibility of . . . FedEx Office." (emphasis in original). While FedEx Office recognizes that it also has this responsibility, Mr. Cero's response demonstrates the availability of the information that Mr. Finley could (and should) have obtained from MISS directly.

PDC Staff December 19, 2019

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to be correct. Thus, to the extent Mr. Finley alleges FedEx Office's failure to respond to his request within 24 hours, FedEx Office maintains it had no obligation to do so under the applicable statutes and regulations.

D. Conclusion

While it did take some time, from the beginning, FedEx Office and its counsel have acted expeditiously in both working with the PDC and with Mr. Finley to provide the information that the PDC concluded FedEx Office was required to maintain and disclose. These good faith efforts have been continuous.

FedEx Office and we stand ready to assist you with any further inquiry and address any questions or concerns you might have. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

CORR CRONIN LLP

Jim Frush Maia Robbins

cc: Client

Chip Beatty Phil Stutzman

EXHIBIT 1

From: Steve Finley <steve-finley@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2019 12:45 PM

To: Robbins, Maia

Cc:Frush, Jim; Dawson, Monica; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.govSubject:Re: Citizen Request of FedEx Office for Inspectional Request for Production

Ms. Robbins,

There were other mailers that I would like to inspect besides the ones listed below. I would like to inspect all mailers for all candidates on Mercer Island. Besides the cost, I need to know the number of each that were printed; see a hard copy or PDF of the actual mailer; know the date it was paid; date ordered; date delivered; and the date mailed.

Also, the reason FedEx was contacted by the PDC was because myself and another person contacted FedEx first and were told no.

Thank you.

----- Original message -----

From: "Robbins, Maia" <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Date: 11/21/19 10:00 (GMT-08:00) To: steve-finley@comcast.net

Cc: "Frush, Jim" < jfrush@correronin.com>, "Dawson, Monica" < mdawson@correronin.com>,

sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov, chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: Citizen Request of FedEx Office for Inspectional Request for Production

Mr. Finley,

I am contacting you as legal counsel for FedEx Office. Below please find the information from FedEx Office that you requested through the Washington Public Disclosure Commission. We would note that the provision of this information was delayed because FedEx Office was originally contacted by PDC employee Chip Beatty, who gave FedEx Office a deadline to respond by giving the information to Mr. Beatty directly.

- (1) The names and addresses of persons from whom FedEx Office accepted political advertising or electioneering communications: Mike Cero, Mercer Island Sustainable Spending, 8300 Avalon Drive, Mercer Island, WA 98040.
- (2) The exact nature and extent of the services rendered: Mailers supporting candidate Jake Jacobson for Mercer Island City Council: Position 7 on behalf of the Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending Campaign.

1

(3) The total cost and manner of payments for the services: There were 3 payments made for this project on a Visa card in the amounts of: \$4,240.52; \$2,815.18; and \$1,433.30.

Thank you,

Maia Robbins | Attorney

CORR CRONIN | LLP

1001 Fourth Avenue | Suite 3900 | Seattle, WA 98154 P: 206-625-8600 | D: 206-652-8656 | F: 206-625-0900 mrobbins@corrcronin.com | www.corrcronin.com

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EXHIBIT 2

From: Steve Finley <steve-finley@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, December 04, 2019 4:08 PM

To: Robbins, Maia

Cc: Frush, Jim; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Voicemail

I requested information about the mailing done by MISS and reported to the PDC by Mr. Cero on reports he filed with the PDC.

From: Robbins, Maia <mrobbins@corrcronin.com> **Sent:** Wednesday, December 4, 2019 3:44 PM **To:** Steve Finley <steve-finley@comcast.net>

Cc: Frush, Jim < jfrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Mr. Finley,

You requested information specifically pertaining to individual Mike Cero, and that is the information I have provided. As I have relayed to you in my emails, we cannot—and are not required to—produce information apart from services provided to a particular individual. If you are concerned with the C4 forms, we would recommend that you work with the PDC and the MISS on a resolution to those issues.

Maia Robbins

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 04, 2019 12:43 PM
To: Robbins, Maia <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Cc: Frush, Jim <ifrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Voicemail

The information you have provided does not appear to be accurate.

According to the C-4 reports they filed with the PDC for the period of October 15th to October 28th, they paid for a half page mailer on 10/15; another half page mailer on 10/21; a quarter page mailer on 10/23; and a half page mailer on 10/28. So two are missing and none of them correspond with any of the dates you have listed below.

Also, on their C-4 for the period of September 1st to October 14th they do not list a mailing on October 13th. However, they do list one for October 3rd.

From: Robbins, Maia <<u>mrobbins@corrcronin.com</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 11:42 AM
To: Steve Finley <steve-finley@comcast.net>

Cc: Frush, Jim <ifrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Mr. Finley,

I was able to acquire the remaining information that may be disclosed publicly regarding Mike Cero's orders with FedEx Office. The dates of the transactions and the quantities of items printed and mailed are listed by date below.

10/13/2019

2 double-sided printed pages2500 pages printed and mailed

10/24/2019

14,000 postcards printed 7,742 postcards (out of the 14,000 printed) mailed

10/29/2019

5,524 postcards printed and mailed

This email and our November 21, 2019 email have provided you with all the information to which you are entitled under the Washington statutes and regulations. As such, this transmission completely fulfills our obligations under these requirements.

Sincerely,

Maia Robbins

From: Robbins, Maia

Sent: Wednesday, December 04, 2019 8:43 AM **To:** 'Steve Finley' < steve-finley@comcast.net>

Cc: Frush, Jim <jfrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Mr. Finley,

Thank you for your email. I am still in the process of obtaining the quantities of the items printed by Mike Cero and the dates on which the transactions took place, and hope to get you that information by the end of the week.

I wanted to clarify our role in assisting you with obtaining the information you requested in your last email. In regards to your first request, FedEx Office is unable to process requests based on the content of the materials processed. This is because the content of flyers is not subject to public disclosure under Washington's campaign finance statutes and regulations. Accordingly, I am unable to obtain information regarding mailers or flyers that support specific candidates. If you have the names of the person(s) who purchased and used FedEx Office's services, we can address that request.

We believe the PDC would be best suited to address your issues with the disclaimer. As we spoke about on the phone last week, assuming FedEx Office is a commercial advertiser—which it disputes—in accordance with WAC 390-18-050 and RCW 42.17A.345, FedEx Office need only disclose limited information to the public. This information exhaustively includes: the name and address of the person using the service, the nature and extent of the service rendered, the costs and method of payment for the service, the quantity of items printed or mailed, and the dates on which the transactions for these services took place. Thus, any information beyond the aforementioned is not subject to public disclosure, including any information contained on items printed and mailed by FedEx Office, such as the disclaimer you listed. If you are concerned with the disclaimer, we would recommend you contact the PDC and work with them and the Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending on a resolution to those issues.

Thank you,

Maia Robbins

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 10:08 AM
To: Robbins, Maia <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Cc: Frush, Jim < jfrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Here is the name of the other Mercer Island candidate who had mailers printed at the FedEx in Bellevue – Daniel Thompson.

In addition to supporting Jake Jacobson, I would like to know what mailers paid for by Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending (MISS) supported Dan (or Daniel) Thompson; Jon Hanlon; Lisa Anderl; and Heather Jordan Cartwright in addition to Jake Jacobson. Or opposed Dave Rosenbaum, Wendy Weiker, Patrick Allcorn, Craig Reynolds, or Debbie Bertlin. It is my understanding that there was at least one mailing that promoted all five of them.

Also, MISS was an independent expenditure committee and the law says it must include a disclaimer pointing that out. This disclaimer must read:

"No candidate authorized this ad. It is paid for by (name and address of committee). Top 5 contributors: (list of contributors)."

I would like to know what mailing this full disclaimer appears on all of the mailers paid for by MISS and who the top five contributors are on all of them. This information can change as more contributions are accepted.

Below are links to the PDCs website for the C-4 forms filed by MISS. There are at least five mailings. However, because they have not filed reports on time or accurately there may be more.

http://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?repno=100942341

http://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?repno=100937656

Thank you.

From: Robbins, Maia <<u>mrobbins@corrcronin.com</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 9:37 AM
To: Steve Finley <<u>steve-finley@comcast.net</u>>
Cc: Frush, Jim <<u>ifrush@corrcronin.com</u>>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Hi Mr. Finley,

Thank you for speaking to me on the phone this morning! As we discussed, it is FedEx Office's position that we do not qualify as a "commercial advertiser" for the purposes of disclosing campaign finance information to the public. However, I am in the process of acquiring the information regarding the quantities of items that were printed and mailed by Mike

Cero that you have requested in accordance with WAC 390-18-050. And, as we discussed, if you seek information regarding other individuals, you may email me a list of specific individuals and FedEx office will review the request.

I will be in touch with you once I have acquired this information from FedEx Office, likely Friday afternoon or early next week.

Thank you for your patience in my response to your original email, and have a great Thanksgiving!

Maia

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 10:36 AM **To:** Robbins, Maia < mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Subject: RE: Voicemail

Understand completely.

Sometime before 11 am on Wednesday works for me.

From: Robbins, Maia < mrobbins@corrcronin.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 10:23 AM

To: steve-finley@comcast.net

Subject: Voicemail

Mr. Finley,

I received your voicemail but am in a mediation all day today and will be unable to call back until tomorrow. I apologize for the delay. I will give you a call tomorrow morning sometime before 11 if that works for you. Please let me know.

Maia Robbins | Attorney

CORR CRONIN | LLP

1001 Fourth Avenue | Suite 3900 | Seattle, WA 98154 P: 206-625-8600 | D: 206-652-8656 | F: 206-625-0900 mrobbins@corrcronin.com | www.corrcronin.com

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EXHIBIT 3

FedExxOffice.. \$\\$

FedEx Office is your destination for printing and shipping.

40 Bellevue Way NE Bellevue, WA 98004-5916 Tel: (425) 451-1055

10/24/2019 9:41:03 AM PST Team Member: Mitchell S. Customer: Mike Cero

> SALE *DUPLICATE RECEIPT*

7to10BZDays Direct MQty 1400 1,898.40

DM Post Card 004862 Reg. Price	14000 @ 0.14	0.1356 T
Price per piece Regular Total		
Discounts	0.00	

Std Postage	Qty 7742	2,152.28
DM-0 Postage 040265 Reg	7742 @ Price 0.28	0.2780

Price per piece	0.28
Regular Total	2,152.28
Discounts	0.00

Sub-Total	4,050.68
Tax	189.84
Deposit	4,240.52

Total Tender	0.00
Change Due	0.00

4,240.52

Total Discounts 0.00

Total



Tell us how we're doing and receive \$5 off your next \$30 print order at fedex.com/welisten or 1-800-398-0242 Offer Code:____Offer expires 12/31/19

Get your message out in a big way with everything from full-color banners to photo-quality posters, yard signs, auto magnets and more.

Thank you for visiting

FedEx Office
Make It. Print It. Pack It. Ship It.
fedex.com/office

By submitting your project to FedEx Office or by making a purchase in the FedEx Office store, you agree to all the FedEx Office terms and conditions, including limitations of liability, located at fedex.com/office, or you may request a copy of our terms and conditions, which will be made available to you upon request.

DUPLICATE RECEIPT

FedexOffice.. \$\\$

FedEx Office is your destination for printing and shipping.

40 Bellevue Way NE Bellevue, WA 98004-5916 Tel: (425) 451-1055

10/29/2019 8:04:04 AM PST Team Member: Angela B. Customer: Mike Cero

> SALE *DUPLICATE RECEIPT*

Direct Mail	Qty 1	2,559.24
DM Post Card 004862 Reg. Price		2559.2400
Price per piece Regular Total Discounts		

Total Tender	0.00
Change Due	0.00

Total Discounts 0.00



Tell us how we're doing and receive \$5 off your next \$30 print order at fedex.com/welisten or 1-800-398-0242 Offer Code:___Offer expires 12/31/19

Get your message out in a big way with everything from full-color banners to photo-quality posters, yard signs, auto magnets and more.

Thank you for visiting

FedEx Office
Make It. Print It. Pack It. Ship It.
fedex.com/office

By submitting your project to FedEx Office or by making a purchase in the FedEx Office store, you agree to all the FedEx Office terms and conditions, including limitations of liability, located at fedex.com/office, or you may request a copy of our terms and conditions, which will be made available to you upon request.

DUPLICATE RECEIPT

FedexOffice.. 2

FedEx Office is your destination for printing and shipping.

40 Bellevue Way NE Bellevue, WA 98004-5916 Tel: (425) 451-1055

Tel: (425) 451-1055 10/13/2019 5:43:41 PM PST

Team Member: Sydney F. Customer: Mike Cero

> SALE *DUPLICATE RECEIPT*

KCEMercerIsland20190 Qty 100 100.00 CLR 1S on 32# Wht 100 @ 0.7500 T 000224 Reg. Price 0.75 BW 1S on 32# Wht 100 @ 0.2500 T 000218 Reg. Price 0.25 Price per piece 1.00 Regular "otal 100.00 Discounts 0.00 I.H. Envelopes (Add Qty 20 3.00 BW 1S CustomerPpr 0.1500 T 20 @ 000071 Reg. Price 0.15 Price per piece 0.15 Regular "otal 3.00 Discounts 0.00

TEN DITECT MAIL GLY 1 1,200.00	FPM Di	rect Mai	1 Qty	/ 1	1,200.00
--------------------------------	--------	----------	-------	-----	----------

DM Letter/Env Mailer 1 @ 1200.0000 T 004863 Reg. Price 1,200.00

Price per piece 1,200.00 Regular Total 1,200.00 Discounts 0.00

Sub-Total	1,303.00
Tax	130.30
Deposit	1,433.30
Total	1 422 20

Total Tender	0.00
Change Due	0.00

Total Discounts 0.00



Tell us how we're doing and receive \$5 off your next \$30 print order at fedex.com/welisten or 1-800-398-0242 Offer Code:___Offer expires 12/31/19

Get your message out in a big way with everything from full-color banners to photo-quality posters, yard signs, auto magnets and more.

Thank you for visiting

FedEx Office
Make It. Print It. Pack It. Ship It.
fedex.com/office

By submitting your project to FedEx Office or by making a purchase in the FedEx Office store, you agree to all the FedEx Office terms and conditions, including limitations of liability,

CORR CRONIN | **LLP**

JIM FRUSH Of Counsel

MAIA ROBBINS
Attornev

(206) 399-2659 jfrush@corrcronin.com | jfrush@cablelang.com

January 10, 2020

VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Fox Blackhorn pdc@pdc.wa.gov

Re: PDC Case No. 60811 - FedEx Office

Dear Mx. Blackhorn:

We write to you today to respond to your January 2, 2020 email requesting further information from FedEx Office. Our responses to your requests for additional information should further illustrate that FedEx Office does not qualify as a "commercial advertiser" under Washington's campaign finance statutes and regulations. To begin, we wish to clarify FedEx Office's role when providing printing and mailing services to a client.

As a "printer," see WAC 390-18-050(6)(a), FedEx Office provides self-service copy machines where a customer may copy or print documents without any interaction with FedEx Office staff. The customer simply goes to a self-service machine and uses a credit card or an equivalent stored-value card. FedEx Office does not monitor the materials copied on the self-service machines. If a customer with a paper document requires further assistance, he or she may contact a FedEx Office employee at his or her discretion, and the employee may make copies of the document for the customer. At that time, the FedEx Office employee checks the document for smudges, briefly reviews it to ensure it complies with FedEx Office's terms of use, and makes the copies. FedEx Office retains no copies or records of these transactions.

If a customer seeks to print a document from an electronic source such as a USB drive, FedEx Office staff will take the electronic file and print the document exactly as is. FedEx Office plays no role in a customer's creative process or design of a document: it merely serves as a platform for getting a file from a digital source into a printed product. Each and every word and design component of the document a customer seeks to print *must come directly from the customer*. The

1001 FOURTH AVENUE, SUITE 3900 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98154-1051
TEL 206.625.8600 FAX 206.625.0900 WWW.CORRCRONIN.COM

Page 2

FedEx Office stores effectively serve as DIY copy centers with the option of staff assistance, not commercial advertisers that "produc[e] material" directly for the purpose of an election campaign. *See* RCW 42.17A.005(10).

As a "mailing servicer," see WAC 390-18-050(6)(b), FedEx Office is even more removed from the definition of a "commercial advertiser." Almost all of FedEx Office's mailing services are outsourced to third-party vendors—only in exceedingly rare circumstances does FedEx Office mail a customer's documents using its internal services. If a customer requests a mailing service from FedEx Office, FedEx Office uses an internal FedEx online site to locate a third-party vendor to fulfill the job. This third-party vendor then issues a quote for the customer and is employed by the FedEx internal intermediary site. FedEx Office then submits all necessary electronic information to the FedEx internal site which, in turn, submits it to the vendor to carry out the mailing services. It is the third-party vendors who then print the mailers, affix address labels and/or postage, stuff envelopes, and take the mailers to the post office for delivery. The vendors may even develop address directories for customers as a service. In almost every instance, FedEx Office does not engage in any of these "mailing services" as defined in the regulations. See WAC 390-18-050(6)(b). FedEx Office notifies the customer once the vendor has completed the mailing services.

In this instance, Mike Cero brought the Bellevue FedEx Office facility an address list for distribution and copies of either a flyer or postcard to be mailed for each of his orders. He provided FedEx Office with electronic files of these materials. FedEx Office then forwarded the materials to its internal site which, in turn, forwarded them to a third-party vendor. This vendor printed the product, stuffed mailers into envelopes, labeled each mailer with the addresses given by Mr. Cero, affixed postage, and took the mailers to the post office for delivery. FedEx Office's role in facilitating these mailings ceased as soon as its internal site transmitted the electronic information to the third-party vendor, and it was only further involved when it notified Mr. Cero that his orders were complete.

Thus, in summary, FedEx Office answers the PDC's additional requests as follows:

- FedEx Office <u>did not</u> perform any of the following services in connection with Mike Cero's orders: design, layout, ² typesetting, photography, silk screening, or binding.
- FedEx Office <u>did not</u> bind, stuff, label, provide list or directory services, apply postage, or deliver any items in its services to Mike Cero. FedEx Office has confirmed that each of Mr. Cero's mailing orders were ultimately processed by the third-party vendor, and it was that

The manager at this particular FedEx Office location stated she could not remember the last time she had facilitated an internal mailing. Whether FedEx Office processes mailings internally depends in part on the scope of the project requested.

With the express consent of Mr. Cero, FedEx Office did slightly expand a white section on a postcard mailer. This minute modification was necessary to accommodate postage.

vendor that stuffed envelopes, applied postage, and delivered all items to the post office. FedEx Office did not participate in any of these services: it acted as an intermediary between Mr. Cero and that vendor.

FedEx Office provided Mr. Finley with copies of the mailers as soon as it was made aware
of its obligations to do so under WAC 390-18-050. FedEx Office emailed the copies to Mr.
Finley on December 16, 2019. The flyers are attached to this correspondence as Exhibit A.
FedEx Office has no record of flyers besides the ones attached and has informed Mr. Finley
of this fact.

Finally, FedEx Office would submit that WAC 390-18-050 is impermissibly overbroad. Although the legislature has delegated powers to the PDC to issue regulations, the regulation must be "reasonably consistent with the statute being implemented." *Armstrong v. State*, 91 Wn. App. 530, 536 (1998); *Wells v. Whatcom Cty. Water Dist. No. 10*, 105 Wn. App. 143, 153 (2001) (citing *Armstrong*). As outlined above, FedEx Office's services do not qualify it as a "printer" or "mailing service" under WAC 390-18-050(6), and it is certainly not a "commercial advertiser," which is defined as a person that "sells the service of communicating messages or producing material for broadcast or distribution to the general public . . . for the purpose of appealing, directly or indirectly, for votes or for financial support in any election campaign." RCW 42.17A.005(10). It is FedEx Office's position that the regulation is overbroad and impermissibly extends to entities beyond the original legislative intent behind RCW 42.17A.345.

In particular, when FedEx Office provides unassisted copying facilities—as does, for example, the local pharmacy or public library—it should not be considered a "commercial advertiser." The PDC's current reading of the statutes and its regulations would encompass those DIY activities in the definition of a "commercial advertiser" as well.

Finally, Mr. Finley continues to harass FedEx Office for additional information, requiring an expenditure of internal resources and those of retained counsel. Please see the attached email exchange at Exhibit B. This is particularly troublesome as the political committee which prepared and sent the materials are required to report them independently to the PDC. Mr. Finley therefore retains the ability to obtain the information he seeks elsewhere without continuing to burden FedEx Office.

If you need further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us. And if you would like recommendations as to how to redraft the regulations to better fulfill the legislative purpose of this statute and prevent this type of situation, we stand ready to assist.

//

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Page 4

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

CORR CRONIN LLP

s/ Jim Frush

Jim Frush Maia Robbins

cc: Client

Chip Beatty Phil Stutzman

EXHIBIT A

EFFICIENCY FIRST

Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending

Please don't be silent in this critical City Council Election!

9/30/19

- Your vote is extremely important for the future of Mercer Island
 - o Ensure a City Council for Mercer Island Citizens first
 - o Ensure a responsible and sound financial city budget
- Almost 7,000 more of you voted in the Mercer Island Prop 1 Election last November compared to the August Primary election.
- That's why Prop 1 that unnecessarily raised property taxes was defeated
- Defeating Prop 1 was the first step. The follow through is electing candidates who opposed
 Prop 1 and understand what it means to develop and enforce a sustainable and efficient budget.
- Vote for candidates who opposed Prop 1

Vote

Position 1: Dan Thompson (https://thompsonforislanders.com)

Position 3: Jon Hanlon (https://www.hanlon4mi.org)
Position 4: Lisa Anderl (https://www.hanlon4mi.org)

Position 5: Heather Cartwright (https://www.cartwrightformi.com)

Position 7: Jake Jacobson (https://jakeformi.com)

Please Vote! Encourage your friends and neighbors to Vote!

If you voted last November, you need to vote this November!

The back-page lists positions of the candidates:

Thanks. Mike.

206.419.0657

Mikecero@miforss.com https://www.miforss.com/

Paid for by Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending
Top 5 contributors: Charon Gooding, Doris Cassan, George Osborne, Mike Cero, Susan Lund

Position 1:

Vote for Dan Thompson

100% funded by MI citizens, accepting no contributions from off-Islanders

Voted AGAINST and campaigned AGAINST Prop 1

Has been a community activist litigating for causes that serve Mercer Islanders

No PAC Contributors

Dave Rosenbaum

54% funded by off-Islanders PAC Contributors: \$1167

Position 3:

Vote for Jon Hanlon

83% funded by MI citizens

Voted AGAINST and campaigned AGAINST Prop 1

Was a leading force in preventing I-90 tolling

No PAC Contributors

Wendy Weiker

41% funded by off-Islanders

Voted AGAINST Prop 1

PAC Contributors: \$2,767

Position 4:

Vote for Lisa Anderl

92% funded by MI citizens

Voted AGAINST and campaigned AGAINST Prop 1

Was a member of the Citizen Advisory Group Minority that advised AGAINST Prop 1

Has shown resiliency and stands behind her principles while serving on the Council

Asks the hard but necessary questions

No PAC Contributors

Patrick Allcorn

39% funded by off-Islanders

Supports tying a splash pool to the upcoming water and sewer levy

PAC Contributors: \$1,167

Position 5:

Vote for Heather Jordan Cartwright

100% funded by MI citizens, accepting no contributions from off-Islanders

Voted AGAINST and campaigned AGAINST Prop 1

Was a member of the Citizen Advisory Group Minority that advised AGAINST Prop 1

No PAC Contributors

Craig Reynolds

24% funded by off-Islanders

Was a member of the Citizen Advisory Group Majority that advised FOR Prop 1.

PAC Contributors: \$667

Position 7:

Vote for Jake Jacobson

0% funded by off-Islanders-100% Self-funded

Voted against and campaigned AGAINST Prop 1

No PAC Contributors

Debbie Bertlin

12% funded by off-Islanders

Campaigning for 3rd term on the Council/2 terms is enough

Council voted to find her in violation of code of ethics

Waffling on bus turn-around decision. Non-committal backing of the Settlement Agreement.

Voted FOR and CAMPAIGNED FOR Prop 1 Property tax increases

As Mayor, there has been significant staff turnover

No PAC Contributors

EFFICIENCY FIRST

Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending

Vote for Jake Jacobson

Mercer Island City Council: Position 7

Credentials

- US Navy Vietnam Veteran (Purple Heart recipient)
- 30 year MI Resident
- 20 years in construction specializing in negotiation and government contracts
- 25 years as senior executive with Osborne Construction
- Retired with highest peer review rating from Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory
- Princeton University undergraduate degree
- · Stanford University law degree

Policy Positions

- Campaigned against the Prop 1 property tax increase
- Vocally opposes the bus intercept plan to make MI a major transit center
- Supports protecting Mercerdale Park & other parks
- · Opposes the bus intercept
- Supports a city-wide formal efficiency program to maximize Islanders' return on tax dollars
- Will not allow tax payers to be liable for the Tully site contamination remediation

Mayor Bertlin's stewardship has been bad for the Island:

- As mayor voted for and supported MI's property tax increase of 45% after six years.
- Publicly admonished for an ethical violation where she requested staff to 'assist a campaign for election.'
- In her two years as mayor, the City experienced resignations of key staff members including the City Attorney, the Finance Director and the City Manager.
- Refuses to prioritize MI interests over regional interests, as evidenced by her refusal to hold Sound Transit to the agreements stipulated in the 2017 Settlement Agreement.
- If we want to bring our community together, we cannot afford to elect Mayor Bertlin to a 3rd term.

MI for Sustainable Spending 8300 Avalon Drive Mercer Island, WA 98040

Vote for Jake Jacobson

Mission Statement: MI for Sustainable Spending seeks to provide Islanders analysis and recommendations on our City's financial sustainability. We will advocate for efficient and transparent operations, recommending alternative approaches to manage City resources, and informing Island residents on such matters.

Paid for by Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending, 8300 Avalon Drive, Mercer Island, WA 98040 Top 5 contributors: Charon Gooding, Doris Cassan, George Osborne, Mike Cero, Susan Lund

EXHIBIT B

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net]

Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2020 6:43 PM **To:** Robbins, Maia <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Cc: Frush, Jim <jfrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Mailers

They may not have been ordered by Mike Cero. They could have been ordered by someone else. I have given you the approximate dates and the dollar amount filed on their PDC forms so FedEx should be able to identify them.

Mr. Cero and MISS are not going to cooperate with me because they know I am working to file a PDC complaint against them.

The PDC only knows what MISS provided to them. FedEx is the one that produced the mailers for MISS and under state law they are required to make that information available to public inspection.

Thank you.

From: Robbins, Maia < mrobbins@corrcronin.com >

Sent: Thursday, January 9, 2020 4:33 PM **To:** Steve Finley <<u>steve-finley@comcast.net</u>>

Cc: Frush, Jim <jfrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Mailers

Mr. Finley,

We appreciate your patience as the holidays were very busy. No records came up for any of the names you presented. FedEx Office has no record of any other flyers used in Mike Cero's orders besides the ones we have sent to you already. Any discrepancies you perceive in the MISS' C4 forms should be addressed to the MISS and PDC directly.

Maia

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net]

Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2020 1:30 PM **To:** Robbins, Maia < mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Cc: Frush, Jim <jfrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Mailers

Maia,

Just checking in to see if the people at FedEx have been able to gather the information now that the holidays are over.

Thanks.

From: Robbins, Maia < mrobbins@corrcronin.com Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2019 4:32 PM

To: Steve Finley <steve-finley@comcast.net>

Cc: Frush, Jim < ifrush@corrcronin.com >; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Mailers

Mr. Finley,

I have contacted FedEx Office and asked them to run the list for disclosable information. However, this is a very busy time of year for both FedEx Office and our firm, so our response may be delayed. We appreciate your patience as we work to retrieve the information you seek.

Thank you,

Maia

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 12:32 PM
To: Robbins, Maia <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>

Cc: Frush, Jim <ifrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Mailers

Thank you for sending me these three receipts but you only sent me two mailers.

It appears the receipt on the far right, the one for \$1,433.30 is for the mailer 190930.

However, I cannot tell what invoice is for the mailer 191015. According to records they filed with the PDC, they did one letter, one quarter page and three half page mailers. The \$2,815.18 invoice on 10-28 appears to match the half page mailer they reported on 10-28. Is this mailer 191015?

They report a mailer on 10/23 for \$4,240.52 that is a quarter page mailer. Can you please send me the proof of this mailer.

There are two mailers that are missing – no invoice or not proof. One is for a half page mailer that cost \$4,835.43 that they list on 10-15 and another half page mailer for \$5,201.90 that they list on 10-21.

Is it possible to search by the amount since you cannot search by MISS or Mercer Islanders for Sensible Spending?

Other possible names would be:

- Susan, Olivia, Sophia, or William Cero;
- Daniel or Dan Thompson;
- George Osborne; and

Daniel or Jake Jacobson

Thank you.

From: Robbins, Maia <<u>mrobbins@corrcronin.com</u>>
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2019 1:22 PM
To: Steve Finley <<u>steve-finley@comcast.net</u>>

Cc: Frush, Jim <jfrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Mailers

Mr. Finley,

Please see the receipts for Mike Cero attached. As you will see, all of the information contained in the invoices is information that we have previously provided to you. Additionally, as we have repeatedly told you, FedEx Office cannot search for flyers based on content. I need to know the names of the individual people who would have purchased the services to conduct searches (the MISS is not sufficient). Any concerns you have with the accuracy of the C-4 forms should be addressed to the PDC and/or the persons or entities who filed them.

Thank you,

Maia

From: Steve Finley [mailto:steve-finley@comcast.net]

Sent: Monday, December 16, 2019 8:35 PM **To:** Robbins, Maia smrobbins@corrcronin.com

Cc: Frush, Jim <jfrush@corrcronin.com>; sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov; chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Subject: RE: Mailers

Thank you for sending.

I cannot determine what mailing was sent on what date based on the information you previously sent me. Can you please send me the invoices for these two mailers.

Also, according to the C-4 reports filed my MISS, FedEx printed four mailers for them. I would like to either inspect, or have you send me the other two mailers and send me the invoices too.

Attached are the two C-4 reports and because their record keeping was so haphazard I have found that the dates on their C-4s do not match dates on other invoices or documents. However, they document that FedEx did four mailers for MISS>

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

From: Robbins, Maia < mrobbins@corrcronin.com Sent: Monday, December 16, 2019 2:09 PM

To: Steve Finley <steve-finley@comcast.net>

Cc: Frush, Jim <<u>jfrush@corrcronin.com</u>>; <u>sean.flynn@pdc.wa.gov</u>; <u>chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov</u>

Subject: Mailers

Mr. Finley,

Attached please find the flyers FedEx Office printed and mailed for Mr. Cero on the dates previously sent to you. We are providing this information in accordance with WAC 390-18-050(6).

Maia

Maia Robbins | Attorney

CORR CRONIN | LLP

1001 Fourth Avenue | Suite 3900 | Seattle, WA 98154 P: 206-625-8600 | D: 206-652-8656 | F: 206-625-0900 mrobbins@corrcronin.com | www.corrcronin.com

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<u>Fox Blackhorn</u> replied 6 months ago (Fri, 8 May 2020 at 3:19 PM) To:mrobbins@corrcronin.com Cc:jfrush@corrcronin.com

Good afternoon Jim and Maia,

Thank you for providing your response and supplemental letters concerning PDC Case 60811. In staff's review, we noted that there was a discrepancy between what Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending (MISS) reported, and what FedEx provided. In communications with Mr. Finley, you indicated that you had checked your records on a few occasions, and produced what you could find.

To address this, PDC staff reached out to MISS for documentation concerning their reported expenditures to FedEx. Attached with this message is documentation of a number of expenditures made to FedEx, including items which have not been produced. Please note that most of these expenditures were paid with the same card (ending in 0536) used to pay the items you have thus far produced.

Specifically, these records document the following expenditures for which no records have been produced:

- 5/17/19 expenditure authorized on 5/15/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$102.96, card ending in 2948
- 10/15/19 expenditure authorized on 10/12/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$4,835.43, card ending in 0536
- 10/22/19 expenditure authorized on 10/19/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$5,201.90, card ending in 0536
- 10/22/19 refund from FedEx Office Bellevue authorized on 10/26/19 for \$4,835.43, card ending in 0536
- 10/30/19 expenditure authorized on 10/28/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$165, card ending in 0536
- 11/12/19 expenditure authorized on 11/09/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$65.06, card ending in 0536

Though the dates appear different on the receipts you provided, it appears that you have so far produced records on the following expenditures based on the total amounts:

- 10/7/19 expenditure authorized on 10/03/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$1433.30, card ending in 0536
- 10/23/19 expenditure authorized on 10/21/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$4,240.52, card ending in 0536
- 10/28/19 expenditure authorized on 10/26/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$2,815.16, card ending in 0536

Please review your records again in light of this information and make a supplemental production to Mr. Finley with a copy to PDC staff. If there are any reasons you assert why you cannot produce this information, please reply to this email identifying which specific expenditures those are, and the rationale for your assertions.

Please produce this information no later than <u>5/22/20</u>.

Thank you,

Mx. Fox Blackhorn Compliance Coordinator 2 Pronouns: *They/Them/Their*

360.753.1980 | 360.753.1111



<u>Jim Frush</u> replied 6 months ago (Mon, 11 May 2020 at 4:30 PM)
To:"PDC Support" <pdc@pdc.wa.gov>, "Robbins Maia" <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>
Cc:phil.stutzman@pdc.wa.gov, chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov

Fox

We are in receipt of your email of last Friday and have already contacted FedEx to work to respond. Your email lists an additional five transactions in addition to the three for which we previously provided documentation. I note that two of the additional five transactions reflect a transaction that was voided out or refunded. The information you have given us, as noted below, is somewhat confusing and inconsistent. Also, as noted below, if you have additional information from your contacts with MISS, it would be helpful.

The three transactions we had provided documentation to Mr. Finley and the PDC were based on searches by customer name. Do you have the customer name for the additional transactions?

You are providing information in your email which reflects the date on which a credit card transaction was "authorized." I note from my own credit card bills that there are two dates listed for each transaction, the "transaction date" and the "posting date." These dates can be several days apart, especially if a weekend or holiday is involved. The "transaction date" would obviously be more useful to us to do any type of search. Would you please clarify which date you reference?

Also, as you are tracking these transactions by credit cards, in whose name are the cards?

You've also included what appears to be a spreadsheet of the FedEx transactions by MISS. Was this a spreadsheet you prepared? Did MISS prepare and file it? In addition, it tracks the transactions by the "Date Recorded at Bank Account," which is none of the three dates I reference above. Would you please clarify? There is also a fourth date listed, which is "PDC Entry." Am I correct to assume that date is the date MISS reported the transaction to the PDC?

In addition, as to the transaction which was refunded or voided, the dates are most confusing. The spreadsheet states that the refunded transaction was reported to the PDC on "10/23/019" [which I take to be 2019]. However, the initial transaction was not reported to the PDC until "10/29/2019." Therefore the spread sheet has the refund being reported prior to the initial transaction which was later refunded. Would you please clarify?

All you have provided are credit card transactions (on some, or rather, many possible, dates). Do you have any information about what was purchased, what was involved in the transaction? As you may recall from our previous communications, some transactions occur with little if any input or knowledge by a FedEx employee. For example, self service copying may not involve an employee. I note three of the unreported transactions were relatively minor (\$102.96, \$165.00, \$65.06). When you back out the refunded or voided transaction, there is only one transaction (for \$5,201.90) of any significant size that remains undocumented.

Lastly, although we last meet and communicated at the time of the initial hearing on March 3, you are only giving us fourteen days (including weekends) to respond. We will do our best and we are getting to work now. However, in light of the issues I've raised above which need clarification, and the essential reality you are only giving us particular credit card transactions of an uncertain date, we don't know what we will find at FedEx, an international company with complex financial records and controls. Moreover, during this time of Covid and remote working, we are uncertain of access to FedEx records in light of the pandemic. I anticipate we will be requesting a reasonable extension of your deadline. Certainly the sooner you can supplement your email with hopefully clarifying information and additional information, our ability to respond will be helped a great deal.

We look forward to working with you to get to the bottom of these matters. We intend to proceed while waiting to hear back from you. We will keep you posted about our efforts.

Thanks very much for your consideration. Stay safe.

Best regards,

Jim

Fox Blackhorn replied 6 months ago (Fri, 15 May 2020 at 12:26 PM)

To:mrobbins@corrcronin.com

Cc:jfrush@corrcronin.com, phil.stutzman@pdc.wa.gov

Jim,

Thank you for your May 11, 2020 letter, which raised a number of questions. Below are our responses to your questions, and if more information becomes available to us that may assist in your search, we will pass it along. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

The three transactions we had provided documentation to Mr. Finley and the PDC were based on searches by customer name. Do you have the customer name for the additional transactions?

The name associated with these expenditures may be any of the names provided to you by the requestor or located in your previous productions. Potential names are:

Michael Cero, Mike Cero, Michael R Cero, Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending, Mercer Island Sustainable Spending, MISS, MI for SS, Dan Thompson, Daniel Thompson, Jon Hanlon, Lisa Anderl, Heather Jordan Cartwright, Heather Cartwright, Jake Jacobson, Susan Cero, Olivia Cero, Sophia Cero, William Cero, George Osborne, and Daniel Jacobson.

If your records of customer name associated with the expenditures you have so far produced records on differs from these suggestions, please also search for those. In addition, you may use the information that has already been provided to you by the requestor, by staff, and by now by MISS, to locate your records of these transactions.

If we receive additional information that may aid in your search, we will forward that along.

You are providing information in your email which reflects the date on which a credit card transaction was "authorized." I note from my own credit card bills that there are two dates listed for each transaction, the "transaction date" and the "posting date." These dates can be several days apart, especially if a weekend or holiday is involved. The "transaction date" would obviously be more useful to us to do any type of search. Would you please clarify which date you reference?

As previously stated, while the dates associated with FedEx, Wells Fargo, and MISS appear to differ, the amounts provided on both the accounting sheet from MISS align in three instances with records you have provided.

The records from Wells Fargo appear to use authorized date to indicate the date the transaction occurred. Use the dates to narrow down your search to locate your records of these transactions, along with the names that have been provided, the last four of the card number, and the amounts tendered.

Also, as you are tracking these transactions by credit cards, in whose name are the cards?

The name on the card for the transactions you have already produced would be the same name for other transactions for the same account on the card ending in 0536.

For the card ending in 2948, possible names include Michael Cero, Mike Cero, Michael R Cero, Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending, Mercer Island Sustainable Spending, MISS, MI for SS, Dan Thompson, Daniel Thompson, Jon Hanlon, Lisa Anderl, Heather Jordan Cartwright, Heather Cartwright, Jake Jacobson, Susan Cero, Olivia Cero, Sophia Cero, William Cero, George Osborne, and Daniel Jacobson.

If we receive additional information that may aid in your search, we will forward that along.

You've also included what appears to be a spreadsheet of the FedEx transactions by MISS. Was this a spreadsheet you prepared? Did MISS prepare and file it? In addition, it tracks the transactions by the "Date Recorded at Bank Account," which is none of the three dates I reference above. Would you please clarify? There is also a fourth date listed, which is "PDC Entry." Am I correct to assume that date is the date MISS reported the transaction to the PDC?

The records we provided to you are as they were provided to us by MISS. They include a ledger maintained with the campaign books of account, as well as underlying documentation from Wells Fargo to substantiate their reported expenditures to, and refunds from, FedEx. The PDC Entry date appears to be the date it was reported to the PDC. The second page appears to show a number of expenditures clearing the campaign bank account with Wells Fargo, for which no records have been produced.

In addition, as to the transaction which was refunded or voided, the dates are most confusing. The spreadsheet states that the refunded transaction was reported to the PDC on "10/23/019" [which I take to be 2019]. However, the initial transaction was not reported to the PDC until "10/29/2019." Therefore the spread sheet has the refund being reported prior to the initial transaction which was later refunded. Would you please clarify?

PDC report 100942341 shows an expenditure of \$4,835.43 for a 1/2 page mailer made to FedEx's Bellevue Location on 10/15/19. The report where this expenditure appears was filed on 10/29/19. The report may be found here: https://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?docid=4844671

PDC report 100940215 shows a refund of \$4,835.43 from the FedEx Bellevue Location on 10/23/19, for 1/4 Page Mailer Deposit. This report was filed the same day, on 10/23/19. This report may be found here: https://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?docid=4842309

The refund was in fact reported prior to the expenditure. For more information on report dates for contributions and expenditures, please see <u>RCW 42.17A.235</u>.

All you have provided are credit card transactions (on some, or rather, many possible, dates). Do you have any information about what was purchased, what was involved in the transaction? As you may recall from our previous communications, some transactions occur with little if any input or knowledge by a FedEx employee. For example, self service copying may not involve an employee. I note three of the unreported transactions were relatively minor (\$102.96, \$165.00, \$65.06). When you back out the refunded or voided transaction, there is only one transaction (for \$5,201.90) of any significant size that remains undocumented.

filer_name	amount	expenditure_date	description	recipient_name	recipient_address
MERCER					
ISLANDERS FOR			155 BALLOT		
SUSTAINABLE			SIGNATURE		40 BELLEVUE
SPENDING	65.06	11/12/2019	CHALLENGES	FEDEX	WAY
MERCER					
ISLANDERS FOR					
SUSTAINABLE			CAG MINORITY		40 BELLEVUE
SPENDING	93.5	5/22/2018	REPORT COPIES	FEDEX	WAY
MERCER					
ISLANDERS FOR					
SUSTAINABLE			REFUND LETTER		40 BELLEVUE
SPENDING	54.18	11/26/2018	COPIES	FEDEX	WAY
MERCER					
ISLANDERS FOR			3,052 QTR PAGE		
SUSTAINABLE			SALVAGED		40 BELLEVUE
SPENDING	165	10/29/2019	MAILERS	FEDEX	WAY
MERCER			HALF PAGE		40 BELLEVUE
ISLANDERS FOR	2,815.16	10/28/2019	MAILER	FEDEX	WAY Exhibit #6
					0# Jidinx3

SUSTAINABLE SPENDING					
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	4,240.52	10/23/2019	1/4 PAGE ENDORSEMENT MAILER	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	5,201.90	10/21/2019	1/2 PAGE MAILER	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	4,835.43	10/15/2019	1/2 PAGE MAILER	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	265.38	8/27/2018	MAILER	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	1,433.30	10/3/2019	MAILER, LETTER AND ENVELOPE	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	85.53	10/5/2018	FAQ AND .PPT COPIES	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	118.51	10/9/2018	MATERIALS FOR MIBC FORUM	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	93.5	10/4/2018	FAQ AND .PPT MATERIALS	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	66.26	10/24/2018	APT MAILER AND 45% CALC	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY
MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING	102.96	5/29/2019	MATERIALS FOR ORG MEETING	FEDEX	40 BELLEVUE WAY

Michael Cero has confirmed that he placed all of the orders himself, and has indicated that some orders were placed directly with FedEx employees at the Bellevue location, typically Brian or Rebecca, with some orders placed or bid through www.fedex.com.

Lastly, although we last meet and communicated at the time of the initial hearing on March 3, you are only giving us fourteen days (including weekends) to respond. We will do our best and we are getting to work now. However, in light of the issues I've raised above which need clarification, and the essential reality you are only giving us particular credit card transactions of an uncertain date, we don't know what we will find at FedEx, an international company with complex financial records and controls. Moreover, during this time of Covid and remote working, we are uncertain

of access to FedEx records in light of the pandemic. I anticipate we will be requesting a reasonable extension of your deadline. Certainly the sooner you can supplement your email with hopefully clarifying information and additional information, our ability to respond will be helped a great deal.

If you require additional time to respond, please do forward a written request stating your reasons for such a request, and we will give it due consideration.

We look forward to working with you to get to the bottom of these matters. We intend to proceed while waiting to hear back from you. We will keep you posted about our efforts.

Thank you for your cooperation, we look forward to your supplemental production.

Health to you and yours!

Mx. Fox Blackhorn
Compliance Coordinator 2
Pronouns: *They/Them/Theirs*360.753.1980 | 360.753.1111



<u>Jim Frush</u> replied 6 months ago (Sat, 16 May 2020 at 2:57 PM)

To:"PDC Support" <pdc@pdc.wa.gov>, "Robbins Maia" <mrobbins@corrcronin.com>
Cc:phil.stutzman@pdc.wa.gov

Fox

Thanks very much for the supplemental information. It should help us track down what remains outstanding. We have done some digging, and can offer the following as a partial response.

We have contacted the local FedEx office where these transactions occurred. There has been lots of turnover, and while the local manager remains the same, the district manager and other employees involved in these transactions have moved on. The local office only keeps financial documentation relating to transactions for three months, then it is purged at that level. The initial search back last fall was only conducted at the local level. This accounts as to why the May transactions was not discovered. The "refund" I'll speak to in a minute. As to why the other transactions were not uncovered is probably due to the failure of the employee (now since gone) who was doing the search to find them. That's speculation on our part, but it could also have been influenced by other factors, including the different names involved. As you point out in two places in your supplement, there are twenty names listed as potential purchasers.

Obviously, the local office, at this point in time, due to the three month retention policy, has no further documents to provide. However, national FedEX staff is conducting a search of their IT warehouse. We are advised by FedEx that is could take several weeks for that search to be completed, produced and reviewed internally, and finally produced to us to produce to you. We are hopeful that the documentation you are requesting can be produced through this process. We have also provided your supplemental information to them. However, in light of these facts, PLEASE CONSIDER THIS A SPECIFIC REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL TIME, UNTIL JUNE 9, TO RESPOND TO YOUR REQUEST. Thanks for your consideration. We will advise if additional time may be needed.

That said, we were able to gleam some information from our additional research undertaken since your email of May 8. The 10/15 transaction, which was later refunded, was simply a deposit placed for an order which would not be finalized until an estimate could be made and a report given back to the potential customer. In this instance, the estimate and cost came in higher than the deposit by 10/22 which is why the deposit was refunded on that date, 10/22. We do not think these two

transactions (the deposit and the refund of the deposit) were reportable. As you can see from your records, the cost went from \$4,835.43 (the amount of the deposit and the refund) to \$5,201.90 on 10/22, which would be reportable.

When you back those three transactions out, as I noted earlier, you only have a few small di minimus transactions. Those were probably small copying jobs related to flyers, postcards, or other small items, as is consistent with your supplemental information. There were no mailings involved with them and they were black and white copy jobs using product (a computer file, maintained by FedEx for two weeks) composed and provided by the customer. FedEx staff had no discretionary or design, layout, composition, or other activity in those transactions but to take the file from the customer, enter the file into their systems, and produce the copies. It's unknown whether the staff involved did or could have realized the nature of the contents or its connection with an election.

That concludes my current update, which we will supplement when we hear from the IT warehouse. I do want to communicate how this long continuing process has burdened my client, both internally and with the added expense of counsel. We would like to get this resolved as soon as possible. And while I understand Mr. Finley has a "right" to some information from us, in your view which we don't necessarily share, I truly wonder what the issue or issues might be. Clearly, the PAC at issue fully reported these expenditures. It's their reports which are being used to see if our compliance was complete, which I suspect is the exact opposite of what the drafters of the statute intended. I recollect the complaint process has a portion of the complaint where the filer, Mr. Finley, needs to point out the harm and damage caused by any non-compliance. I'm not knowledgeable about the issues on Mercer Island, but just what did Mr. Finely think was going on that he felt was inappropriate? Was this all intended as a harassment on his part, both of FedEx and the PAC? While I may sound like an advocate, forgive me, but what's the substantive point of this exercise. If anything, this entire process should give you and your staff ample evidence to apply to the legislative to specifically exempt those entities like FedEx from these burdensome requirements to provide information to people like Mr. Finley. I've been involved in many cases for and with the PDC where there was some real substance, such as hiding the identity of donors, violating campaign limits, engaging in improper conduct between a PAC and candidate, filing false reports, and the like. I do hope this case serves as a catalyst for change and that change allows all of us to return to doing something more productive, material to some serious issue, and important.

As always, we do appreciate your accessibility and willingness to engage in a dialogue. Thanks very much. Please let us know about our requested extension. We are doing our best to comply and hopefully put this all behind us, sooner rather than later.

Best regards, and be safe.

Jim

Fox Blackhorn replied 6 months ago (Mon, 18 May 2020 at 2:34 PM) To:mrobbins@corrcronin.com

Cc:jfrush@corrcronin.com, phil.stutzman@pdc.wa.gov

Jim Frush,

Your request for an extension of time to make a supplemental production has been granted. Please make your production no later than **6/9/2020**.

Thank you,

Mx. Fox Blackhorn Compliance Coordinator 2 Pronouns: They/Them/Their (Thu, 21 May 2020 at 10:50 AM)

To:"PDC Support" <pdc@pdc.wa.gov>

Cc:phil.stutzman@pdc.wa.gov, mrobbins@correronin.com

Attention: Fox Blackhorn

Fox

Good news. FedEx has worked hard and we believe we have the information you requested at this time and won't need the additional time you were gracious enough to give us. It took a great deal of effort and resources, but FedEx put a high priority on these issues and we are able to report back to you now.

Attached are three spreadsheets of data, obtained from the forensic analysis conducted by FedEx IT personnel. We believe these spreadsheets capture all nine items you were looking for and they are listed below. The forensic folks pulled transaction history reports for the months in question relating to the FedEX Office location in question. The first was a spot report of May 2019, a full report for the month of October 2019, and a full report for the month of November 2019. The analyst pulled out and highlighted the apparent matches. Please note that the transactions that were deposits can be found on the GL tab. It does look like there was not a name associated with some of the credit card transactions, which is probably why some of the transactions were not originally found.

- 5/17/19 expenditure authorized on 5/15/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$102.96, card ending in 2948
- 10/15/19 expenditure authorized on 10/12/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$4,835.43, card ending in 0536
- 10/22/19 expenditure authorized on 10/19/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$5,201.90, card ending in 0536
- 10/22/19 refund from FedEx Office Bellevue authorized on 10/26/19 for \$4,835.43, card ending in 0536
- 10/30/19 expenditure authorized on 10/28/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$165, card ending in 0536
- 11/12/19 expenditure authorized on 11/09/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$65.06, card ending in 0536
- 10/7/19 expenditure authorized on 10/03/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$1433.30, card ending in 0536
- 10/23/19 expenditure authorized on 10/21/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$4,240.52, card ending in 0536
- 10/28/19 expenditure authorized on 10/26/19 to FedEx Office Bellevue for \$2,815.16, card ending in 0536

One of the realizations that stood out to me as I was reviewing this data is that the purchaser, when listed, is Mike Cero, not Mercer Islanders for Sustainable Spending, Mercer Island Sustainable Spending, MISS, or MI for SS. These names reflect the PAC which made and reported the expenditures. It seems to me a strong argument can be made that individuals who make purchases on behalf of PACs need to be required to report to the "Commercial Advertiser" the name of the reporting entity when making the purchaser.

It should not be FedEx's obligation to figure out whether a purchase is for a political entity. Mr. Finely, I recollect, gave the name Mike Cero, and the search was graciously made on that basis among the records still maintained at the location at that time. Additional names have been bandied about, and you gave us the names of twelve additional individuals in addition to two variations on Mr. Cero's name.

Someone in FedEx's position should not be required to search some unlimited list of names for purchases. In this case, credit cards were used which allowed the transactions to be recovered. What happens when a credit card is not used, but cash is paid?

What happens when there is absolutely no way to trace a transaction that doesn't have a name associated with it (as there were here in some instances) and no credit card is used or the number is not provided by the PAC or other reporting entity. In hindsight, at best, FedEx was required to keep records identified with the PAC and the PAC names associated with MISS or whatever name is registered as the PDC if the purchases had been made in that name.

If you want these transactions to be maintained and discovered by the Commercial Advertiser, you need to require the PAC or reporting identity to identify the transaction to FedEX as a reportable political expense and have it listed in the name of the reporting entity. Anything else creates the kind of mess this has been, where we are searching for dozens of names and for projects that the FedEx personnel had no reason to necessarily know were of a political and reportable nature. It strikes me that Mr. Finley could have asked for a search to be made of the name of the reporting entity.

Past that, I don't think legally FedEx had any obligation to do more. And, of course, in this instance, no items would have been found. All this compounds the numerous issues that are inherent in the PDC's current approach to this statutory scheme, including the regulations that were adopted. There needs to be clarity and this process must work without the tremendous investment of time and resources by FedEx Office and similarly situated businesses that this process has required in this instant.

Where do we go from here? As you know, my client wants a timely resolution to these issues which have dragged on, and which, as I've pointed out previously, appear to be much about nothing, that is, there were no material issues in the reporting by the PAC. We will separately be providing this information and documentation to Mr. Finley and will copy you with our submission to him.

Do you feel the documentation we are providing is sufficient at this time? If you anticipate that your investigation will proceed further, please advise. If you feel that the investigation has concluded, and you are searching for a resolution, we would want to be heard in advance of any negative finding and given an opportunity to directly respond to any concerns you still have and about anything other than a dismissal of Mr. Finley's complaint.

I'm sure you and the rest of the staff are as weary of these issues as we are. We truly appreciate your willingness to engage in a meaningful and hopefully constructive dialogue, not only about the issues in this case but how these issues should be handled in the future. FedEx Office continues to stand ready to cooperate in any fashion possible and hopefully bring these matters to a quick and appropriate resolution. Thanks very much.

Best, Jim

B359661 Transaction Detail2Center No October
2019 20200514 114742.xlsb $1.06\;\mathrm{MB}$

1B359661_Transaction_Detail2CenterNo - MAY-_20200514_112000.xlsx 14.39 KB

B359661_Transaction_Detail2CenterNo_November2019_20200514_115352.xlsb 939.39 KB

TRNS_ID	TRNS_SET_TYPE	SOURCE_SYS_CD	LOC_NO	INVC_NBR	TRNS_SET_DT	TRNS_DTTM	TRNS_TYPE	CUSTOMER_1	TY CWRKR_NBR SRC_DVC	TRACK_NBR	TNDR_CN1	FIRST_TNDR_	_TYI FIRST_	TNDR_AMT	FIRST_CARDHLDR
2094558064	NRML	OTP	5135	5135005201910034785	10/3/2019	10/3/2019	GL	RETL	2015808 MS24553	513506PFF.1	1	VISA	\$	1,433.30	
2096458052	2 NRML	OTP	5135	5135006201910126386	10/12/2019	10/12/2019	GL	RETL	2022883 BC63545	513506P0W.2	1	VISA	\$	4,835.43	MICHAEL CERO
2097927061	NRML	OTP	5135	5135006201910196672	10/19/2019	10/19/2019	GL	RETL	2022883 BC64230	513506P0W.2	1	VISA	\$	(4,835.43)	MICHAEL CERO
2097927063	NRML NRML	OTP	5135	5135006201910196673	10/19/2019	10/19/2019	GL	RETL	2022883 BC64230	513506P0W.2	1	VISA	\$	5,201.90	MICHAEL CERO
2098058951	NRML	OTP	5135	5135005201910215690	10/21/2019	10/21/2019	GL	RETL	2015808 MS32153	231700VJY.1	1	VISA	\$	4,240.52	
2099270225	NRML	OTP	5135	5135004201910261325	10/26/2019	10/26/2019	GL	RETL	2637400 CL14648	513506Q3H.1	1	VISA	\$	2,815.16	MICHAEL CERO
2099506620) NRML	OTP	5135	5135006201910286936	10/28/2019	10/28/2019	GL	RETL	1879191 AB62829	513506Q7L.1	1	VISA	\$	165.00	MICHAEL CERO

SET_RFRNC	LOAD_RFRNC	AUDIT_DTTM	PROCESS_DTTM	VOID_TRNS	LEVEL6_CD	LOC_ID	TRNS_SET_DT0	TRNS_ID0	TNDR_TYPE	TNDR_AMT	TRNS_DTTM0	CARDHLDR_NM	ATHRZ_NBR	EXPRT_DT	AUDIT_DTTM(CC_AUTH_RSP
38241044	2094558064	10/5/2019	10/4/2019	n	10043	597	10/3/2019	2094558064	VISA	\$ 1,433.30	10/3/2019		070726	9/1/2023	10/5/2019	10
38319771	2096458052	10/14/2019	10/13/2019	n	10043	597	10/12/2019	2096458052	VISA	\$ 4,835.43	10/12/2019	MICHAEL CERO	087742	9/1/2023	10/14/2019	10
38378953	2097927061	10/21/2019	10/20/2019	n	10043	597	10/19/2019	2097927061	VISA	\$ (4,835.43)	10/19/2019	MICHAEL CERO		9/1/2023	10/21/2019	10
38378953	2097927063	10/21/2019	10/20/2019	n	10043	597	10/19/2019	2097927063	VISA	\$ 5,201.90	10/19/2019	MICHAEL CERO	046004	9/1/2023	10/21/2019	10
38387258	2098058951	10/23/2019	10/22/2019	n	10043	597	10/21/2019	2098058951	VISA	\$ 4,240.52	10/21/2019		014674	9/1/2023	10/23/2019	10
38435011	2099270225	10/28/2019	10/27/2019	n	10043	597	10/26/2019	2099270225	VISA	\$ 2,815.16	10/26/2019	MICHAEL CERO	055869	9/1/2023	10/28/2019	10
38449644	2099506620	10/30/2019	10/29/2019	n	10043	597	10/28/2019	2099506620	VISA	\$ 165.00	10/28/2019	MICHAEL CERO	002671	9/1/2023	10/30/2019	10

CRDT_CRD_FIRST	CRDT_CRD_LAS	ST_EMV_APP_ID	EMV_AUTH_RESP_CD	EMV_ISSUER_APP_DATA_TXT	EMV_	_TRAN_STAT_INFO_TXT	EMV_TRMNL_VERIF_RSULT_CD	CARD_HLDR_VERIF_MTHD_CD
425909	0536							NoCVM
425909	0536	A000000031010		06010A03A00000	6800			Signature
425909	0536							
425909	0536	A000000031010		06010A03A00000	6800			Signature
425909	0536							NoCVM
425909	0536	A000000031010		06010A03A08000	6800			Signature
425909	0536	A000000031010		06010A03A08000	6800			Signature

TRAN_REQ_ID	TOKEN_ID	TOKEN_EXP_DT	LOC_DESC	ADDR_01	ADDR_02	CITY	STATE_CD	ZIP_CD	COUNTY	PHONE
01Z6HKCK2O00P75FPKRQ8UO42T5A1MG1	4259090A1009KPQMTK29AL0A0536	2023-10-03T00:00:00.0000000Z	Bellevue WA Bellevue Way	40 Bellevue Way NE		Bellevue	WA	98004	King	(425) 451-1055
01Z6HL4D0C00P75HQUFOG1R98ML9RG10	4259090A1000YGO9VAPOCEUB0536	2023-10-12T00:00:00.00000000Z	Bellevue WA Bellevue Way	40 Bellevue Way NE		Bellevue	WA	98004	King	(425) 451-1055
01Z6HLN1J700P75JDKA9DSB14NME2D2Z	4259090A1000YGO9VAPOCEUB0536	2023-10-12T00:00:00.0000000Z	Bellevue WA Bellevue Way	40 Bellevue Way NE		Bellevue	WA	98004	King	(425) 451-1055
01Z6HLN1RP00P75JDLBIT6ETFJPJNNAQ	4259090A1000YGO9VAPOCEUB0536	2023-10-12T00:00:00.0000000Z	Bellevue WA Bellevue Way	40 Bellevue Way NE		Bellevue	WA	98004	King	(425) 451-1055
01Z6HLS50I00P75JQDFOMUR2K46K6NIJ	4259090A1000YGO9VAPOCEUB0536	2023-10-12T00:00:00.0000000Z	Bellevue WA Bellevue Way	40 Bellevue Way NE		Bellevue	WA	98004	King	(425) 451-1055
01Z6HMA07200P75L1JEOPQE0GJ6EQ6BH	4259090A1000YGO9VAPOCEUB0536	2023-10-12T00:00:00.00000000Z	Bellevue WA Bellevue Way	40 Bellevue Way NE		Bellevue	WA	98004	King	(425) 451-1055
01Z6HMEVH700P75LDS666D59C2HRMUVK	4259090A1000YGO9VAPOCEUB0536	2023-10-12T00:00:00.00000000Z	Bellevue WA Bellevue Way	40 Bellevue Way NE		Bellevue	WA	98004	King	(425) 451-1055

FAX	HRMS_LAST_NAME	HRMS_FIRST_NAME	FEDEX_ID	HRMS_JOB_CD_DESC	KINKOS_ID	OTP_ORDER_NUMBER	OTP_ORDER_VERSION_NUMBER	ORDER_CREATION_TIME_DAY_ID	EXTERNAL_ORDER_GTN
(425) 455-3343	Smith	Mitchell	2015808	Store Lead Consultant	493792	513506PFF		20190930	
(425) 455-3343	Cloutier	Bryan	2022883	Store Assistant Manager	500887	513506P0W		20190919)
(425) 455-3343	Cloutier	Bryan	2022883	Store Assistant Manager	500887	513506P0W		20190919)
(425) 455-3343	Cloutier	Bryan	2022883	Store Assistant Manager	500887	513506P0W		20190919)
(425) 455-3343	Smith	Mitchell	2015808	Store Lead Consultant	493792	231700VJY		20191010)
(425) 455-3343	Lopes	Chris	2637400	Store Lead Consultant	549621	513506Q3H	:	20191023	}
(425) 455-3343	Breeding	Angela	1879191	Flagship Store Manager	479716	513506Q7L		1 20191028	}

EXTERNAL_ORDER_REFERENCE_ID	ORDER_BIN_EMP_NAME	ORDER_BIN_EMP_JOB_DESC	ORDER_CREATION_EMP_NAME	ORDER_CREATION_EMP_JOB_DESC	ORDER_FINAL_EMP_NAME	ORDER_FINAL_EMP_JOB_DESC
	Antonio Padilla	Store Manager I				
	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager	Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager
	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager	Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager
	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager	Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager
	Mitchell Smith	Store Lead Consultant	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager
	Mitchell Smith	Store Lead Consultant	Chris Lopes	Store Lead Consultant		
	Sydney Fava	Store Lead Consultant	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager

ORDER_ORIG_EMP_NAME	ORDER_ORIG_EMP_JOB_DESC	ORDER_TENDER_EMP_NAME	ORDER_TENDER_EMP_JOB_DESC	FINAL_ORDER_STA	TU ORDER_ORIG_DUE_I	ORDER_FINAL_	D ORDER_BIN_DATE	ORDER_TENDER_	_CORDER_DELIVERY_I
		Sydney Fava	Store Lead Consultant	10/13/2019	10/11/2019	10/14/2019	10/13/2019	10/13/2019	10/13/2019
Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager	Mitchell Smith	Store Lead Consultant	10/24/2019	10/22/2019	10/22/2019	10/20/2019	10/24/2019	10/24/2019
Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager	Mitchell Smith	Store Lead Consultant	10/24/2019	10/22/2019	10/22/2019	10/20/2019	10/24/2019	10/24/2019
Bryan Cloutier	Store Assistant Manager	Mitchell Smith	Store Lead Consultant	10/24/2019	10/22/2019	10/22/2019	10/20/2019	10/24/2019	10/24/2019
Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	Mitchell Smith	Store Lead Consultant	10/24/2019	10/22/2019	10/22/2019	10/22/2019	10/24/2019	10/24/2019
Chris Lopes	Store Lead Consultant	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	10/29/2019	10/28/2019	10/29/2019	10/29/2019	10/29/2019	10/29/2019
Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	Angela Breeding	Flagship Store Manager	10/28/2019	10/28/2019	10/28/2019	10/28/2019	10/28/2019	10/28/2019

CUSTOMER_ID	CUSTOMER_0	CUSTOMER	_CC CUSTOMER_CON	CUSTOMER_CO	ONTA CUSTOMER_CONTACT_	EMA OTPC_CREATION	OTPC_LAST_UPDAT	E ORDER_SIZE_CD	ORDER_ENTRY_METHOD_CD
38631919	Mike	Cero	206	4190657		9/30/2019	10/13/2019	Large Order	OE
38631919	Mike	Cero	206	4190657	mscero@comcast.net	9/19/2019	10/24/2019	Large Order	OE
38631919	Mike	Cero	206	4190657	mscero@comcast.net	9/19/2019	10/24/2019	Large Order	OE
38631919	Mike	Cero	206	4190657	mscero@comcast.net	9/19/2019	10/24/2019	Large Order	OE
38631919	Mike	Cero	206	4190657	mscero@comcast.net	10/10/2019	10/24/2019	Large Order	OE
38631919	Mike	Cero	206	4190657	mscero@comcast.net	10/23/2019	10/29/2019	Large Order	OE
38631919	Mike	Cero	206	4190657	mscero@comcast.net	10/28/2019	10/28/2019	Medium Order	OE

DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

711 CAPITOL WAY RM 206 PO BOX 40908 OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908 (360) 753-1111

SUMMARY, FULL REPORT RECEIPTS AND

PDC OFFICE USE 100937656

10-15-2019

Page 1 of 9 10/15/19

EXPENDITURES TOLL FREE 1-877-601-2828 Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Include full name)

MERCER ISLANDERS FOR S	SUSTAINABLE SE	PENDING						
Mailing Address 8300 AVALON DRIVE					City ME I	RCER ISLAN	ND, WA	
Zip + 4 98040	Office Sought (Cano	didates) Election Date 2019 *For PACs, Parties & 0						us Committees: During
Report Period From (last C-	4) To (er	nd of period)	Final	Report?	expe	enditure (i.e., ar	n expense no	ot considered a contribution)
Covered 09/01/1 :	9 10	/14/19	Yes	No X	supp	orting or opposi	ing a state o	r local candidate?
RECEIPTS					*See	e next page	Υ	res No
 Previous total cash and in kir (if beginning a new campaigr 	nd contributions (From n or calendar year, see	line 8, last C-4) e instruction bookle	et)					\$2,112.91
2. Cash received (From line 2,	Schedule A)				····· <u>\$</u>	\$16,91	L5.89	
3. In kind contributions received	d (From line 1, Schedu	ıle B)				Ş	0.00	
4. Total cash and in kind contrib	outions received this p	eriod (Line 2 plus	3)				<u> </u>	\$16,915.89
5. Loan principal repayments m	ade (From line 2, Sch	edule L)				Ş	30.00	
6. Corrections (From line 1 or 3	, Schedule C)			Show + o	or (-)	Ş	0.00	
7. Net adjustments this period (Combine line 5 & 6)					Show	+ or (-)	\$0.00
8. Total cash and in kind contrib	outions during campai	gn (Combine lines	1, 4 & 7)			<u> </u>	\$19,028.80
9. Total pledge payments due (From line 2, Schedule	В)		\$0.00				
EXPENDITURES								
Previous total cash and in kir (If beginning a new campaigr	nd expenditures (From n or calendar year, see	i line 17, last C-4) e instruction bookle	et)				<u> </u>	\$798.81
11. Total cash expenditures (Fro	m line 4, Schedule A)					\$3,4	147.74	
12. In kind expenditures (goods a	& services) (From line	1, Schedule B)					\$0.00	
13. Total cash and in kind expen	ditures made this peri-	od (Line 11 plus lir	ne 12)				<u> </u>	\$3,447.74
14. Loan principal repayments m	ade (From line 2, Sch	edule L)					\$0.00	
15. Corrections (From line 2 or 3	, Schedule C)			Show + o	or (-)		\$0.00	
16. Net adjustments this period (Combine lines 14 & 1	5)				Show	+ or (-)	\$0.00
17. Total cash and in kind expen	ditures during campai	gn (Combine lines	10, 13 a	ınd 16)				\$4,246.55
CANDIDATES ONLY	Name not	CASH SUMMAR	Υ					
	Jnopposed on ballot	18. Cash on hand [Line 18 should equ	•		•	lus your petty cash b		\$14,782.25
Primary election General election		19. Liabilities: (S	Sum of lo	ans and d	lebts owe	ed)	<u> </u>	\$0.00
Treasurer's Daytime Telephone N	lo.:	20. Balance (Sur	nlus or d	eficit) (Lin	ne 18 mir	nus line 19)		
(206)419-0657		,				, 		\$14,782.25
CERTIFICATION: I certify that the in Candidate's Signature	formation herein and on a Date			attachment r's Signat		and correct to the	best of my kno	owledge. Exhibit #8
	Date			. J Janati				- 410

MICHAEL CERO

CASH RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

SCHEDULE to C4

Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Use full name.)

Report Date

10/14/19 09/01/19

1. CASH RECEIPTS (Contributions) which have been reported on C3. List each deposit made since last C4 report was submitted. Date of deposit Amount Date of deposit Amount Date of deposit Amount Total deposits 09/24/2019 \$10,750.00 10/03/2019 \$350.00 10/11/2019 \$3,015.89 09/27/2019 \$1,100.00 | 10/08/2019 \$200.00 09/30/2019 \$1,000.00 10/08/2019 \$500.00 2. TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS Enter also on line 2 of C4

CODES FOR CLASSIFYING EXPENDITURES: If one of the following codes is used to describe an expenditure, no other description is generally needed. The exceptions are:

- If expenditures are in-kind or earmarked contributions to a candidate or committee or independent expenditures that benefit a candidate or committee, identify the candidate or committee in the Description block;
- When reporting payments to vendors for travel expenses, identify the traveler and travel purpose in the Description block; and
- If expenditures are made directly or indirectly to compensate a person or entity for soliciting signatures on a statewide initiative or referendum petition, use code "V" and provide the following information on an attached sheet: name and address of each person/entity compensated, amount paid each during the reporting period, and cumulative total paid all persons to date to gather signatures.

DEFINITIONS ON NEXT PAGE

- C Contributions (monetary, in-kind & transfers)
- I Independent Expenditures
- L Literature, Brochures, Printing B - Broadcast Advertising (Radio, TV)
- N Newspaper and Periodical Advertising
- O Other Advertising (yard signs, buttons, etc.)
- V Voter Signature Gathering

- P Postage, Mailing Permits
- S Surveys and Polls
- F Fundraising Event Expenses
- T Travel, Accommodations, Meals
- M Management/Consulting Services
- W Wages, Salaries, Benefits
- G General Operation and Overhead

3. EXPENDITURES

- a) Expenditures of \$50 or less, including those from petty cash, need not be itemized. Add up these expenditures and show the total in the amount column on the first line below...
- Itemize each expenditure of more than \$50 by date paid, name and address of vendor, code/description, and amount.
- For each payment to a candidate, campaign worker, PR firm, advertising agency or credit card company, attach a list of detailed expenses or copies of receipts/invoices supporting the payment.

Date Paid	Vendor or Recipient (Name and Address)	Code	Purpose of Expense and/or Description	Amount
N/A	Expenses of \$50 or less	N/A	N/A	\$124.14
09/27/19	SQUARESPACE, INC E COMMERCE E COMMERCE, WA 91234		On line Contribution Charge-Meissner	\$59.30
10/03/19	FEDEX 40 BELLEVUE WAY BELLEVUE, WA 98004		Mailer, Letter and Envelope	\$1,433.30
10/03/19	SOUND PUBLISHING 11323 COMMANDO RD W, UNIT MAIN EVERETT, WA 98204-3532		10/9 Full Page Color Ad	\$949.00
09/20/19	VICTORYSTORE.COM 5200 30th St SW Davenport, IA 52802		Toppers	\$882.00
			Total from attached pages	\$ \$0.00

4. TOTAL CASH EXPENDITURES Enter also on line 11 of C4 \$ \$3,447.74



SUMMARY, FULL REPORT RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

PDC OFFICE USE 100942341

10-29-2019

Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Include full name) MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING City Mailing Address MERCER ISLAND, WA 8300 AVALON DRIVE Zip + 4Office Sought (Candidates) **Election Date** *For PACs, Parties & Caucus Committees: During 98040 2019 this report period, did the committee make an independent From (last C-4) To (end of period) expenditure (i.e., an expense not considered a contribution) Report Period Final Report? supporting or opposing a state or local candidate? Covered 10/15/19 10/28/19 Yes No X **RECEIPTS** *See next page Yes No 1. Previous total cash and in kind contributions (From line 8, last C-4) 2. Cash received (From line 2, Schedule A) \$ \$10,910.43 3. In kind contributions received (From line 1, Schedule B)..... 4. Total cash and in kind contributions received this period (Line 2 plus 3)..... \$10,910.43 9. Total pledge payments due (From line 2, Schedule B) \$0.00 10. Previous total cash and in kind expenditures (From line 17, last C-4) (If beginning a new campaign or calendar year, see instruction booklet) 13. Total cash and in kind expenditures made this period (Line 11 plus line 12)...... \$20,197.24 14. Loan principal repayments made (From line 2, Schedule L)..... (\$4,835.43) 17. Total cash and in kind expenditures during campaign (Combine lines 10, 13 and 16)..... \$19,608.36 **CANDIDATES ONLY CASH SUMMARY** Name not 18. Cash on hand (Line 8 minus line 17) \$5,495.44 Lost Unopposed on ballot [Line 18 should equal your bank account balance(s) plus your petty cash balance.] Primary election 19. Liabilities: (Sum of loans and debts owed) General election \$0.00 Treasurer's Daytime Telephone No.: 20. Balance (Surplus or deficit) (Line 18 minus line 19) (206)419-0657 CERTIFICATION: I certify that the information herein and on accompanying schedules and attachments is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Candidate's Signature Date Date Treasurer's Signature MICHAEL CERO 10/29/19

CASH RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

SCHED to C

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4	/\
7	(11/93)

Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Use full name.)

Report Date

10/15/19 10/28/19 1. CASH RECEIPTS (Contributions) which have been reported on C3. List each deposit made since last C4 report was submitted. Date of deposit Amount Date of deposit Amount Date of deposit Total deposits Amount 10/16/2019 \$5,750.00 10/23/2019 \$4,835.43 10/24/2019 \$325.00 2. TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS Enter also on line 2 of C4 \$10,910.43

CODES FOR CLASSIFYING EXPENDITURES: If one of the following codes is used to describe an expenditure, no other description is generally needed. The exceptions are:

- 1) $If expenditures \ are \ \underline{in\text{-kind or earmarked contributions}} \ to \ a \ candidate \ or \ \underline{ommittee} \ or \ \underline{independent \ expenditures} \ that \ benefit \ a \ candidate \ or \ \underline{ommittee} \ or \$ committee, identify the candidate or committee in the Description block;
- When reporting payments to vendors for travel expenses, identify the traveler and travel purpose in the Description block; and 2)
- 3) If expenditures are made directly or indirectly to compensate a person or entity for soliciting signatures on a statewide initiative or referendum petition, use code "V" and provide the following information on an attached sheet: name and address of each person/entity compensated, amount paid each during the reporting period, and cumulative total paid all persons to date to gather signatures.

CODE **DEFINITIONS** ON NEXT PAGE

- C Contributions (monetary, in-kind & transfers)
- I Independent Expenditures
- L Literature, Brochures, Printing
- B Broadcast Advertising (Radio, TV)
- N Newspaper and Periodical Advertising
- O Other Advertising (yard signs, buttons, etc.)
- V Voter Signature Gathering

- P Postage, Mailing Permits
- S Surveys and Polls
- F Fundraising Event Expenses
- T Travel, Accommodations, Meals
- M Management/Consulting Services W - Wages, Salaries, Benefits
- G General Operation and Overhead
- 3. EXPENDITURES
 - a) Expenditures of \$50 or less, including those from petty cash, need not be itemized. Add up these expenditures and show the total in the amount column on the first line below..
 - Itemize each expenditure of more than \$50 by date paid, name and address of vendor, code/description, and amount.
 - For each payment to a candidate, campaign worker, PR firm, advertising agency or credit card company, attach a list of detailed expenses or copies of receipts/invoices supporting the payment.

Date Paid	Vendor or Recipient (Name and Address)	Code	Purpose of Expense and/or Description	Amount
N/A	Expenses of \$50 or less	N/A	N/A	\$68.18
10/15/19	SOUND PUBLISHING 11323 COMMANDO RD W, UNIT MAIN EVERETT, WA 98204-3532		10/16 Full Page Add	\$949.00
10/15/19	FEDEX 40 BELLEVUE WAY BELLEVUE, WA 98004		1/2 Page Mailer	\$4,835.43
10/15/19	SOUND PUBLISHING 11323 COMMANDO RD W, UNIT MAIN EVERETT, WA 98204-3532		10/23 Full Page Ad	\$949.00
10/21/19	FACEBOOK 1 HACKER WAY MENLO PARK, CA 94025		Boosting Post	\$189.05
10/21/19	FEDEX 40 BELLEVUE WAY BELLEVUE, WA 98004		1/2 Page Mailer	\$5,201.90
10/23/19	FEDEX 40 BELLEVUE WAY BELLEVUE, WA 98004		1/4 Page Endorsement Mailer	\$4,240.52
. ===			Total from attached pages	\$ \$3,764.16
4. TOTAL CA	SH EXPENDITURES		Enter also on line 11 of C4	\$ \$20,197.24

EXPENDITURES CONTINUATION SHEET (Attachment to Schedule A)

Page 3

Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Use full name.)

Report Date

10/15/19 10/28/19

Date Paid	Vendor or Recipient (Name and Address)	Code	Purpose of Expense and/or Description	Amount
10/24/19	SOUND PUBLISHING 11323 COMMANDO RD W, UNIT MAIN EVERETT, WA 98204-3532		Full Page MIR Ad 10/30	\$949.00
10/28/19	FEDEX 40 BELLEVUE WAY BELLEVUE, WA 98004		Half Page Mailer	\$2,815.16

Page Total \$ \$3,764.16

CORRECTIONS

SCHEDULE TO C4

4

Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Use full name.)

Date

10/15/19 10/28/19 3. REFUNDS FROM VENDORS The below listed amounts have been received as refunds on expenditures previously reported. The refund has been deposited and reported on C3 report, Line 1d. **Date of Report** Source/Person Making Refund Amount of Refund FEDEX 10/23/19 40 BELLEVUE WAY BELLEVUE, WA 98004 \$4,835.43

\$4,835.43

Total refunds

Enter as (-) on line 6 and line 15 of C4.



SUMMARY, FULL REPORT RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

PDC OFFICE USE 100947403

12-05-2019

Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Include full name) MERCER ISLANDERS FOR SUSTAINABLE SPENDING City Mailing Address MERCER ISLAND, WA 8300 AVALON DRIVE Zip + 4Office Sought (Candidates) **Election Date** *For PACs, Parties & Caucus Committees: During 98040 2019 this report period, did the committee make an independent Report Period From (last C-4) To (end of period) expenditure (i.e., an expense not considered a contribution) Final Report? supporting or opposing a state or local candidate? Covered 10/29/19 11/30/19 Yes No X **RECEIPTS** *See next page Yes No 1. Previous total cash and in kind contributions (From line 8, last C-4) 3. In kind contributions received (From line 1, Schedule B)..... 4. Total cash and in kind contributions received this period (Line 2 plus 3)..... \$5,000.00 5. Loan principal repayments made (From line 2, Schedule L)..... Corrections (From line 1 or 3, Schedule C)......Show + or (-) \$0.00 9. Total pledge payments due (From line 2, Schedule B) \$0.00 10. Previous total cash and in kind expenditures (From line 17, last C-4) 13. Total cash and in kind expenditures made this period (Line 11 plus line 12)..... \$2,880.46 14. Loan principal repayments made (From line 2, Schedule L)..... \$0.00 15. Corrections (From line 2 or 3, Schedule C)......Show + or (-) \$0.00 \$0.00 17. Total cash and in kind expenditures during campaign (Combine lines 10, 13 and 16)..... \$22,495.02 **CANDIDATES ONLY CASH SUMMARY** Name not \$7,608.78 Lost Unopposed on ballot [Line 18 should equal your bank account balance(s) plus your petty cash balance.] Primary election 19. Liabilities: (Sum of loans and debts owed) General election \$0.00 Treasurer's Daytime Telephone No.: 20. Balance (Surplus or deficit) (Line 18 minus line 19) (206)419-0657 \$7,608.78 CERTIFICATION: I certify that the information herein and on accompanying schedules and attachments is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Candidate's Signature Date Date Treasurer's Signature MICHAEL CERO 12/05/19

CASH RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

SCHEDULE to C4

Α	
(11/03)	

Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Use full name.)

Report Date

			,			
					10/29/19	11/30/19
1. CASH RECEIPTS	(Contributions) which	h have been reported or	C3. List each dep	oosit made since last C4	report was submitte	d.
Date of deposit	Amount	Date of deposit	Amount	Date of deposit	Amount	Total deposits
11/14/2019	\$5,000.00					
2. TOTAL CASH REC	\$ \$5,000.00					

CODES FOR CLASSIFYING EXPENDITURES: If one of the following codes is used to describe an expenditure, no other description is generally needed. The exceptions are:

- 1) If expenditures are $\underline{\text{in-kind or earmarked contributions}}$ to a candidate or committee or $\underline{\text{independent expenditures}}$ that benefit a candidate or committee, identify the candidate or committee in the Description block;
- When reporting payments to vendors for travel expenses, identify the traveler and travel purpose in the Description block; and 2)
- 3) If expenditures are made directly or indirectly to compensate a person or entity for soliciting signatures on a statewide initiative or referendum petition, use code "V" and provide the following information on an attached sheet: name and address of each person/entity compensated, amount paid each during the reporting period, and cumulative total paid all persons to date to gather signatures.

CODE DEFINITIONS ON NEXT PAGE

- C Contributions (monetary, in-kind & transfers)
- I Independent Expenditures
- L Literature, Brochures, Printing
- B Broadcast Advertising (Radio, TV)
- N Newspaper and Periodical Advertising
- O Other Advertising (yard signs, buttons, etc.)
- V Voter Signature Gathering

- P Postage, Mailing Permits
- S Surveys and Polls
- F Fundraising Event Expenses
- T Travel, Accommodations, Meals
- M Management/Consulting Services
- W Wages, Salaries, Benefits
- G General Operation and Overhead

3. EXPENDITURES

- a) Expenditures of \$50 or less, including those from petty cash, need not be itemized. Add up these expenditures and show the total in the
 amount column on the first line below..
- Itemize each expenditure of more than \$50 by date paid, name and address of vendor, code/description, and amount.
- For each payment to a candidate, campaign worker, PR firm, advertising agency or credit card company, attach a list of detailed expenses or copies of receipts/invoices supporting the payment.

Date Paid	Vendor or Recipient (Name and Address)	Purpose of Expense and/or Description	Amount	
N/A	Expenses of \$50 or less	N/A	N/A	\$48.38
10/29/19	FEDEX 40 BELLEVUE WAY BELLEVUE, WA 98004		3,052 Qtr Page Salvaged Mailers	\$165.00
10/29/19	USPS 3040 78th Ave SE Mercer Island, WA 98040		Post card stamps	\$945.00
10/31/19	SQUARESPACE, INC E COMMERCE E COMMERCE, WA 91234		Annual Website Fee	\$237.60
10/31/19	USPS 3040 78th Ave SE Mercer Island, WA 98040		Postcard Postage	\$700.00
11/01/19	USPS 3040 78th Ave SE Mercer Island, WA 98040		Postcard Stamps	\$455.00
11/12/19	FEDEX 40 BELLEVUE WAY BELLEVUE, WA 98004		155 Ballot Signature Challenges	\$65.06
4. TOTAL CA	SH EXPENDITURES		Total from attached pages Enter also on line 11 of C4	

EXPENDITURES CONTINUATION SHEET (Attachment to Schedule A)

Page 3

Candidate or Committee Name (Do not abbreviate. Use full name.)

Report Date

10/29/19 11/30/19

Date Paid	Vendor or Recipient (Name and Address)	Code	Purpose of Expense and/or Description	Amount
11/12/19	USPS 3040 78th Ave SE Mercer Island, WA 98040		Stamps	\$113.50
11/20/19	FACEBOOK 1 HACKER WAY MENLO PARK, CA 94025		facebook ads	\$63.16
11/25/19	NEW TECH WEB 12712 SE 223RD DRIVE MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040		2 Year Domain/Web Page Renewal	\$87.76

Page Total \$ \$264.42