



**State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908
(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

January 14, 2020

Delivered electronically to “wheeler2020campaign@gmail.com”

Subject: Complaint filed by Christopher Leyba, PDC Case 61738

Dear Martin Wheeler:

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

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

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of disclosing party preference and full sponsor identification on political advertising. PDC staff expects in the future that you will disclose all required party preference and sponsor identification on political advertising in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

If you have questions, you may contact Tabitha Townsend at 1-360-586-4555 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s

Tabitha Townsend
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director



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January 14, 2020

Delivered electronically to "helicobluestraining@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Martin Wheeler, PDC Case 61738

Dear Christopher Leyba:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on December 21, 2019. The complaint alleged that Martin Wheeler (Respondent), a candidate for Governor of the State of Washington may have violated RCW 42.17A.320(1) for failure to identify party preference on political advertising and WAC 390-18-010 for failure to disclose complete sponsor identification on political advertising.

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

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

- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.320(1) the Respondent is required to disclose their party preference for a campaign for partisan office, if a candidate has expressed a party or independent preference on the declaration of candidacy, that party or independent designation shall be clearly identified in electioneering communications, independent expenditures, or political advertising.
- The Respondent produced and distributed a flyer that did not include the party preference listed on the Candidate Registration on file with the PDC.
- Pursuant to WAC 390-18-010 the Respondent is required to disclose full sponsor identification on political advertising, including name, mailing address, city, state, zip code.
- The Respondent produced and distributed a flyer that did not include sponsor identification that was set aside from the text of the flyer and included name, mailing address, city, state, zip code.
- On January 3, 2020 the Respondent submitted a copy of the flyer that was corrected to include the party preference and full sponsor identification.
- The Respondent is a first-time candidate with no prior violations with the PDC.

Based on our findings staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to disclose party preference and full sponsor identification on political advertising does not amount to a violation that warrants further investigation.

However, PDC staff is reminding Martin Wheeler about the importance of disclosing party preference and full sponsor identification on political advertising and disclosing all required party preference and sponsor identification on all future political advertising in accordance with the statutes and rules.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Tabitha Townsend at 1-360-586-4555 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s

Tabitha Townsend
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director

cc: Martin Wheeler