

[Radosevich, Michele](#) reported via email 6 days ago

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

Cc:brandon.best@maverickgaming.com

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Ms. Townsend:

I am responding to the PDC's e-mail of 7/14/2020 asking for a response from Washingtonians Win in the 19th ("WW19") for alleged violations of campaign finance law submitted to the PDC by Glen Morgan.

The first allegation is that WW19 failed to provide sufficient detail of its expenditures in violation of RCW 42.17A.240(6) and WAC 390-16-037. WW-19 provided all necessary information in a timely fashion.

WW19 first contracted for billboard space in March, but as of the date of its original March C-4 on April 10, 2020, no billboards were actually in existence due to coronavirus uncertainties. Therefore, WW19 reported the expenditure with location data only.

Because of the coronavirus, the first billboards did not go up until April 27, 2020, and these billboards did not contain a candidate message, but instead contained coronavirus safety reminders. The first billboards to present a message regarding Rep. Walsh did not go up until June 1, 2020. See the attached e-mail from the media agency. WW19 filed C6s in June which properly identified Rep. Walsh and the amounts spent, as well as amended its March C-4 to identify Rep. Walsh. On July 14, when it filed its June C-4, WW19 again amended its March C-4 to include the number of billboards in each location.

The March billboard expenditure was a deposit for billboard space. No billboards containing political advertising were put up prior to June 1, and thus the first report detailing this expenditure was due on July 14. While it is not at all clear that WAC 390-16-037 requires reporting the number of billboards, we do not face that question since the number of billboards was reported by July 14. If anything, WW19 over-reported by amending its March C-4s rather than simply labeling it March expenditure as a deposit and reporting the detail on July 14 on its June C-4. If the PDC has a preference on how to report this kind of two-step expenditure, WW19 will be happy to comply.

The second allegation is that WW19 did not use the proper form of disclosure on the billboards, instead simply stating: "Paid for by Washingtonians Win in the 19th, Sponsored by Maverick Gaming, P.O. Box 306, Olympia, WA 98507." This is true and has been corrected to include the phrase "No candidate paid for this ad," as well as the top 5 and top 3 listings. However, because Maverick Gaming is the sponsor and only contributor, WW19 was not hiding the identity of its contributors, and there could be no confusion on the part of the public about who paid for the ad.

A third related allegation is that the billboard did not identify Rep. Walsh as a Republican. This is true and has been corrected.

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