

Respondent Name
Columbia Voice PAC, sponsored by Washington Realtors PAC
Complainant Name
Glen Morgan
Complaint Description
<p>Glen Morgan reported via the portal (<i>Wed, 15 Jul 2020 at 1:07 PM</i>)</p> <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>It has come to my attention that Columbia Voice PAC sponsored by Washington State Realtors PAC has violated Washington State’s campaign finance laws (RCW 42.17A). The details of these violations are as follows:</p> <p>1) Failure to provide legally required Independent Expenditure Sponsor Statement or Disclosure of Top contributors in \$40,000 TV ad campaign (Violation of RCW 42.17A.320(1) and RCW 42.17A.320(5) and RCW 42.17A.350)</p> <p>This PAC committed at least three distinct violations of Washington State’s campaign finance laws on a very expensive radio ad campaign which appears to be ongoing at this time. These violation appear to correspond to the expenditures which were inadequately reported on the attached C6 Report (See PDC C6 Report #9996)</p> <p>For a live recording of at least one of the radio ads paid for by this PAC, please see the attached file which was made by a constituent who lived in that district and was able to record it as the radio played the ad.</p> <p>The three distinct violations are as follows (and can be confirmed by listening to the attached ad):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Failure to identify sponsor of the ad (Violation of RCW 42.17A.320(1)) · Failure to identify the party affiliation of the candidate in a partisan race (Violation of RCW 42.17A.320(1)) The statute clearly states: “ 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.” · Failure to provide disclosure statement including Top contributors (Violation of RCW 42.17A.320(5) AND RCW 42.17A.350) Please note, RCW 42.17A.320(5) <i>specifically</i> applies to radio advertising. <p>Please note, this is an elementary compliance requirement and fundamental to the disclosure campaign finance rules which have been in place since 1972. This is a well-funded, experienced PAC which even hired professional consultants who are paid big bucks for “compliance” and easily have both the resources and experience to comply with the</p>

statute. They simply chose to ignore it in this case because they know they will not be held accountable, and even if a micro fine were to be imposed, it will be a minor cost of doing business (and breaking the law).

2) Failure to provide legally required details in Independent Expenditure Reports (C6) (Violation of RCW 42.17A.240(6), RCW 42.17A.235 See also WAC 390-16-037, and WAC 390-16-205 see example C)

This is another example of how “professionals” are willfully making a conscious choice to ignore the statute or just flagrantly violate it knowing there are no real consequences for doing so.

In this case, on the same attached C6 (See **PDC Report #9996**), this well-funded PAC chose to ignore the law and not even follow the pretty simple explanation helpfully provided by the PDC in WAC 390-16-205, example C, and provide the legally required details about these independent expenditures. Please consider the fact that these are large expenditures (just under \$40,000) spent during the 21 days prior to the election and this willful disregard for the law is not excusable.

Please keep in mind, this is not an “inexperienced” PAC or “all volunteer” grassroots PAC. This is a well-funded, very experienced PAC, PAC sponsor, and paid consultant, who, in theory, should be held to a higher standard than some newbie activist who just woke up to the political process yesterday. This PAC and consultant and treasurer is well aware of the law, they have filed these reports in the past, and they simply decided to ignore the law this time around.

Another more technical example is where they didn’t even correctly identify the name of the candidate in the C6 by inserting a bunch of question marks in the “name” box, which makes it less likely this information can be found in the search function of the PDC.

Please feel free to let me know if you need any further information in this case.

Best Regards,

Glen Morgan

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420.24 KB

Columbia Voice PAC - C6-9996 - lack of detail.pdf
175.53 KB

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

The public has a right to know who funds political radio ads. Large, well funded PACs and consultants have no right to feel they can break the law with impunity and skip away laughing at the little people who actually try to comply with the statute. In this case \$40,000 of ads

willfully crafted to conceal the sponsors, top 5 donors, and other information is worth investigating by the PDC

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

see attached recording of the ad, and the relevant C6

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

The treasurer, the consultant, the sponsor, and probably the media company

Certification (Complainant)

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.



Reporting Form for: (check one)

Instructions on Page 3

- INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES** (Occurring at any time) — **\$100 or more**
 INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE ADS (Appearing within 21 days of an election) — **\$1,000 or more**
 ELECTIONEERING COMMUNICATIONS, Except Contributions (Appearing within 60 days of an election) — **\$1,000 or more**

1. Name and complete postal mailing address of sponsor: COLUMBIA VOICE PAC PO BOX 7663 OLYMPIA, WA 98507	E-mail HEATHER@CLARKECOMPA Telephone 3606288129
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2. Itemize expenditures of more than \$100 associated with the independent expenditure or electioneering communication.

Date Made	Date First Presented/ Mailed	Name and Address of Vendor or Recipient	Description of Expenditure (e.g., direct mail or newspaper, TV or radio ad)	Amount or Value (*See Below)
07/01/20	07/09/20	MEDIA+ 160 ROY STREET SEATTLE, WA 98109	RADIO ADVERTISING	36,332.00
07/01/20	07/09/20	MEDIA+ 160 ROY STREET SEATTLE, WA 98109	CREATIVE SERVICES	3,419.00
Expenditures \$100 or less not itemized above				\$ 0.00

Amount or Value	Total this report	\$ 39,751.00
*If no reasonable estimate can be made of value, describe activity, services, property or right furnished precisely and attach copy of item produced or distributed.	Total independent expenditures and electioneering communications made during this election campaign. Include amounts shown in this report and previously submitted C-6 reports.	\$ 39,751.00

3. List of candidate(s) or ballot proposition(s) identified in the advertising.					Show portion of current expense attributable to each candidate or proposition	Show total C-6 expenses related to each candidate/ proposition during election campaign
Candidate/Proposition	Office/District/ Proposition No.	Party	Check Support or Oppose			
William ???Bill??? Jenkin,	STATE SENATOR/LEG DISTRICT 16 - SENATE	REPUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$ 39,751.00	\$ 39,751.00
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	\$
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	\$
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	\$

Filer Name:

4. If reporting an Electioneering Communication, it is necessary to disclose information concerning the source of funding for the communication. Select the description that applies:

- a) ___ An individual using only personal funds.
- b) ___ An individual using personal funds and/or funds received from others.
- c) ___ A business, union, group, association, organization, or other person using only general treasury funds.
- d) ___ A business, union, group, association, organization, or other person using general treasury funds and/or funds received from others.
- e) **x** A political committee filing C-3 and C-4 reports. (RCW 42.17A.205 - .240)
- f) ___ A political committee filing C-5 reports. (RCW 42.17A.250)
- g) ___ Other

If (b), (d), (f), or (g) applies, complete section 5 below. If (e) applies, also complete section 5 if the committee received funds that were requested or designated for the communication.

5. Sources giving in excess of \$250 for the electioneering communication:

Date Received	Source's Name, Address, City, State, Zip	For individuals, Employer's Name, City and State	Amount
			\$
		Occupation	
			\$
		Occupation	
			\$
		Occupation	
			\$
		Occupation	
			\$
		Occupation	
		Sub-Total	\$ 0.00
	Continued on attached sheet <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount from attached pages	\$ 0.00
		TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED	\$ 0.00

Sponsor of Independent Expenditure or Electioneering Communication			
I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that this expenditure was not made in cooperation, consultation, or concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate, a candidate's authorized committee, or an agent of a candidate nor does it otherwise constitute a contribution under RCW 42.17A.005. I further certify that the above information is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.	Signature	Printed Name HEATHER CLARKE	
	Street address 3400 CAPITOL BLVD SE SUITE 202		
	City/State/Zip TUMWATER WA 98501		
	Date Signed 07/12/20	Place Signed (city and county) TUMWATER THURSON	
	*RCW 9A.72.040 provides that "(1) A person is guilty of false swearing if he makes a false statement, which he knows to be false, under an oath required or authorized by law. (2) False swearing is a misdemeanor."		