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JAN 14 2021

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

**State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

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

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdca.wa.gov](http://www.pdca.wa.gov)

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**Public Disclosure Commission Statement of Understanding**

**Robert Gray PDC Case 78594**

I, ROBERT GRAY, as an individual spending my personal funds to make an  
(Printed Name of individual) independent expenditure, acknowledge that I violated:

1. RCW 42.17A.320 by failing to include the required sponsor identification on political advertising for an independent expenditure mailer printed and mailed in opposition to City of Bellingham Proposition 2020-14, a local transportation ballot measure on the November 3, 2020 general election ballot.
  - RCW 42.17A.320 requires all written political advertising, including newspaper political advertising, to disclose the sponsor's name and complete mailing address in the advertisement.
  - On October 14, 2020, Robert Gray presented to the public an independent expenditure mailer that listed as part of the return address as coming from Resident Samish (an assumed or fictitious name), 2350 Newmarket Street, Suite 101-264, Bellingham, WA, and stating "VOTE "NO" on 2020-14."
2. RCW 42.17A.255 by failing to timely file an Independent Expenditure Report (C-6 Report) disclosing an independent expenditure mailer in opposition to the City of Bellingham Proposition 2020-14, on the November 3, 2020 general election ballot.
  - RCW 42.17A.255 requires sponsors of independent expenditure political advertisements of \$100 or more to file a C-6 report within five days of making an independent expenditure in support of or in opposition to any candidate or ballot proposition.
  - On October 7, 2020, Robert Gray made a \$7,887.35 expenditure to Lithtex in Bellingham, Washington to print and mail an independent expenditure mailer in opposition to Proposition 2020-14. A C-6 report was required to have been filed within five business days or no later than October 14, 2020.
  - On November 1, 2020 Robert Gray filed a C-6 report disclosing the \$7,887.35 expenditure made to Lithtex on October 7, 2020, for the independent expenditure mailer that was presented to the public on October 14, 2020.
  - The C-6 report was filed 17 days late, and two days before the November 3, 2020 general election.

Robert Gray  
PDC Case 78594  
Statement of Understanding

I would like to avoid the time and expense resulting from staff scheduling a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) conducted by the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

Therefore, in lieu of PDC staff scheduling a Brief Enforcement Hearing, I am completing this Statement of Understanding, and enclosing a check or money order in the amount of \$650 as a penalty payment to resolve this matter. The \$650 penalty assessed in this matter was for two acknowledged violations as follows:

- A \$500 penalty for one violation of RCW 42.17A.320 for sponsoring an independent expenditure advertisement that failed to include the proper sponsor identification and for using an assumed or fictitious name as the sponsor.
- A \$150 penalty for one violation of RCW 42.17A.255 for failing to timely file a C-6 report.

The \$650 penalty is being assessed in accordance with the Penalty Schedule, and the mitigating and aggravating factors adopted by the Commission for Brief Enforcement Hearings set forth in WAC 390-37-143.

I understand that by completing this Statement of Understanding, I am acknowledging one violation of RCW 42.17A.320, and one violation of RCW 42.17A.255, as set forth above and I am waiving my right to a hearing in this matter.

I further understand that this will resolve the issue of failing to include the proper sponsor identification on the independent expenditure advertisement, and timely file the C-6 report disclosing the independent expenditure mailer.

s/ RC Gray  
Electronically Signed by Robert Gray

1/8/2021  
Date Signed

Please make your check or money order payable to the "Washington State Treasurer" and be sure to include the PDC Case number in the memorandum field, and print, sign and mail this Statement of Understanding along with your payment to:

**Public Disclosure Commission**  
P.O. Box 40908  
Olympia, WA 98504-0908

