

Tyler reported via email Wed, 4 Nov 2020

To: "Washington Public Disclosure Commission" <pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov>

Thank you very much for providing us these complaints. Enterprise Washington is committed to complying with campaign laws, and as the PDC is aware, we have put in place additional policies and personnel this year to focus even more resources on compliance. The complaints here allege that two mailers supporting Senator Ron Muzzall encourage voters to "Re-Elect" him. Senator Muzzall was appointed to his seat last November. Under WAC 390-18-040, "Re-Elect" should have been "Retain." Those two advertisements were the only mailers with that language, and as soon as we realized the issue, we changed then-forthcoming mailers to say "Retain." The use of "Re-Elect" was simple inadvertence in drafting, and the use of that common parlance did not signal any impropriety when the pieces went through our review. It is doubtful indeed that any voter would make a fine distinction between "Re-Elect" and "Retain," or would base any voting decision on the difference. Respectfully, it is far-fetched and false to claim that using one term rather than the other was an intentional violation, rather than a simple mistake. Out of an abundance of caution, we are updating our policies in the event that this situation arises in the future. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or if we can be of further help.

Tyler Mason

Executive Director

Enterprise Washington

Tyler@EnterpriseWashington.org

(559) 284-4941