



**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](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)**

April 30, 2021

Delivered electronically to Greg Wheeler, Mayor of Bremerton

Subject: Complaint regarding Greg Wheeler, PDC Case #89014

Mayor Wheeler:

Enclosed is a copy of an electronic letter sent to William Broughton concerning a complaint he filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) against you. As noted in the letter to Mr. Broughton, there was no evidence provided or found that you violated RCW 42.17A.555 by using City of Bremerton facilities to support your 2021 candidacy for re-election to Mayor of Bremerton.

The PDC will not be conducting further investigation into these allegations or taking any enforcement action in this matter.

The PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). If you have questions, you may contact Kurt Young by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

/s/

Electronically Signed Kurt Young  
Compliance Officer

/s/

Electronically Signed BG Sandahl, Deputy Director for  
Peter Lavalley, PDC Executive Director



**Public Disclosure Commission**  
Shining Light on Washington Politics Since 1972



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April 30, 2021

Delivered electronically to William Broughton

Subject: Complaint regarding Greg Wheeler, PDC Case #89014

Mr. Broughton:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on April 10, 2021. The complaint alleged that Greg Wheeler, the incumbent Mayor of the City of Bremerton, and a candidate seeking re-election to that office in 2021, may have violated RCW 42.17A.555 by using City of Bremerton facilities to support his candidacy for re-election.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations and exhibits listed in the complaint; the applicable statutes, rules and PDC Interpretation #04-02 Guidelines for Local Government Agencies in Election Campaigns; and the April 22, 2021 response from Mayor Wheeler to the allegations listed in the complaint. Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.555 no public facilities can be used by or authorized to be used directly or indirectly by any local elected or appointed official or public employee, to support or oppose any candidate or ballot proposition.
- On December 14, 2020, Greg Wheeler filed a Registration with the PDC declaring his candidacy for re-election to the office of Mayor of Bremerton in 2021, selecting the Full Reporting Option and listing Carl Olson as Ministerial Treasurer and the sole Officer.
- Specifically, the complaint alleged that Mayor Wheeler posted photographs on his re-election website "of himself wearing City clothing and posing in front of City vehicles. He also posts ribbon cutting events and other events where he is pictured in his capacity as Mayor of Bremerton."
- Staff requested Mayor Wheeler provide a response to questions concerning how his re-election campaign obtained the photographs that were posted to his website ([www.reelectgregwheeler.com](http://www.reelectgregwheeler.com)), and if any City of Bremerton staff or officials were involved in taking or posting any of the photographs listed in the complaint.
- Mayor Wheeler stated that the photographs posted on his "website were obtained from the candidate, his family, his supporters, or photographers paid by the campaign." He stated the photographs were received by his Campaign "via social media/tagging and email."

- Mayor Wheeler stated that the photographs taken at the ribbon cutting ceremonies and other City of Bremerton “sponsored events were taken by friends of the candidate and the candidate’s wife. Many of these people share their photos with the City of Bremerton for social media use as well.”
- Mayor Wheeler confirmed to PDC staff that no City of Bremerton staff took any of the photographs or involved with any of the photographs that were posted on his Campaign website. He stated that the “City of Bremerton does not employ photographers and no City employee was directed to take photos for the campaign.”

There was no evidence provided or found that Mayor Wheeler wore City of Bremerton clothing in any of the photographs taken by friends of the candidate or the candidate’s spouse, and that were subsequently posted on his Campaign website.

Based on these findings, PDC staff found no evidence of a violation that would require conducting a more formal investigation into the complaint or pursuing enforcement action in this instance.

The PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). If you have questions, you may contact Kurt Young by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

/s\_\_\_\_\_  
Electronically Signed Kurt Young  
Compliance Officer

/s\_\_\_\_\_  
Electronically Signed BG Sandahl, Deputy Director for  
Peter Lavallee, PDC Executive Director



cc: Greg Wheeler, Mayor City of Bremerton