



State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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October 8, 2021

Sent electronically to Michael Fertakis at [michaelfertakis@gmail.com](mailto:michaelfertakis@gmail.com)

Subject: Complaint regarding Burien United PAC, PDC Case 96758

Dear Mr. Fertakis:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on July 22, 2021. The complaint alleged that Burien United PAC, may have violated RCW 42.17A.205, .235, .240 and .320 by failing to register as a committee, timely and accurately file reports and failing to include the proper sponsor identification language on political advertising.

PDC staff reviewed your allegation(s); the attachments provided with the complaint; the applicable statute(s), rule(s), and reporting requirements; and the September 17, 2021, and September 28, 2021, responses to the complaint provided by Burien United PAC (Committee).

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- The complaint alleged that Burien United PAC, “created a Facebook group that is explicitly telling folks to vote/support the candidates Dorsey, Mora, Barrett and Simkus, and have clearly spent time and money creating graphics for their organization, as well as sending emails explicitly calling for people to vote for their preferred candidates.”
- In its response to the complaint/allegation(s), received on September 17, 2021, the Committee stated: “We want to point out that we have absolutely nothing to do with fundraising. We have raised no money, given no money, received no money and spent no money. We are small group of Burien residents who made a Facebook page. Note that Burien United does NOT intend to do anything with funds or money and that our posts are “home-made” and created by us.”
- Staff noted that there was a video link associated with the Committee on Vimeo video platform depicting short introductions/background interviews of the five Burien City Council candidates supported by Committee and asked the Committee if it had spent money to pay for the video of the five candidates depicted in the video. In its response, received on September 28, 2021, the Committee stated: “The Vimeo channel we are/were using is free and the little interviews were homemade. Note that we actually are not using those videos. We had them on the platform, but they were stored there for future

use, which never happened. They have since been removed, along with any mention of particular candidates.”

Based on staff’s review of the documentation submitted with the complaint, and the written responses provided by the respondent, and the attachments provided by the complainant, no evidence was found to substantiate violation(s) of RCW 42.17A.205, .235, .240 and .320.

PDC staff has therefore determined that, in this instance, no evidence supports a finding of a violation that warrants further investigation.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Erick Agina, Compliance Officer at (360) 586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Erick Agina, Compliance Officer

s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Bradford, Deputy Director for  
Peter Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: Burien United PAC

