

Respondent Name
Amy Breitenstein
Complainant Name
Andrew Koeppen
Complaint Description
<p>Andreas Koeppen reported via the portal (Tue, 7 Nov 2023 at 2:42 PM) Regarding Amy Breitenstein Campaign</p> <p>First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to the PDC for its invaluable assistance in compelling the candidate to open their campaign financial records to me. This assistance was especially vital in light of the candidate's apparent reluctance to adhere to PDC requirements. Without your intervention, I would not have had the opportunity to review the campaign financial records this past Saturday.</p> <p>After a thorough examination of the campaign's financial records, I can understand fully their reluctance to show the books and I respectfully request that the PDC exercise its discretion and conduct an audit of this candidate's financial records in accordance with WAC 390-16-043, section (9). I have identified several concerning anomalies during my examination, which I believe warrant a closer investigation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The "ledger" presented was a hand-scribbled and incomplete list of some deposits and withdrawals, lacking clarity and completeness. I believe this was done purposely to make it impossible to fully vet or check the completeness of Amy Breitenstein's campaign books.2. Some cash donations were listed in excess of \$100.00, which should have been in the form of written instruments as required.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Donation from James Baker of \$300.00 cash on 10/4/2023b. Cumulative donation from Jon Smith of \$300.00 (\$100 on 6/1/2023, 7/20/2023, 10/26/2023). I believe the separation into three donations was to avoid the use of written instruments.c. Donation from Carla Urias of \$300 cash on 10/30/20233. The candidate failed to provide occupation and employer information for individuals who contributed more than \$250 in aggregate, whether through cash or check.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. James Baker (\$300 cash donated 10/04/2023)b. David Skaug (\$500 check (cancelled check not provided) donated 8/22/2023)c. BEW Local 77 (\$500 check (cancelled check not provided) donated 10/15/2023)d. Carla Urias (\$300 cash donation 10/30/2023)4. It was observed that Kirryn Jesen and Carla Urias received an in-kind donation for radio commercials from Amy Breitenstein, potentially violating the rule that prohibits the transfer of campaign funds or services to other candidates or political committees. \$138.66 donation in kind each to Kirryn Jensen campaign and to Carla Urias Campaign, transaction occurred 10/30/20235. The candidate also omitted to disclose an in-kind donation from a PAC called "Connecting Communities." Received on September 30, 2023 when the PAC produced a flyer endorsing these candidates. Notably, there is an impression that this PAC includes individuals such as David Hunt, Jon Smith, Dan DeLano, David Skaug, Amy Breitenstein, Carla Urias, and Kirryn Jensen. I further suspect that a donation in-kind from Mr. Hunt on 9/4/2023 for \$150.00 and Jon Smith cumulative \$300 donation was actually a contribution from the Connecting Communities PAC.6. The candidate failed to provide complete underlying source documentation, there were no canceled checks, copies of contribution checks, and or digital transaction records.7. During the examination of the books, it must be noted that Mr. Hunt, who is not listed as Treasurer in this campaign, not only was present during the examination, he was actively giving advice to the candidate and Mr. Hunt took and recorded my driver's license information. Given the legal requirements regarding concealment and Mr. Hunt's use of multiple aliases, given his reputation in the community, it appears he intentionally concealed his role as the Treasurer and Campaign manager of this campaign.8. As stated previously, I believe that one of the in-kind donations attributed to Mr. Hunt and cash donation my Jon Smith may actually have originated from Mr. Hunt's PAC, known as "Connecting Communities." <p>I kindly request the PDC to thoroughly investigate these concerns and take appropriate actions to ensure compliance with campaign finance regulations. Your assistance in maintaining transparency and integrity in the electoral process is greatly appreciated.</p>

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

The alleged violations outlined in the complaint have significant potential impacts on the public. They include a lack of transparency, which hinders informed decision-making by voters, and the erosion of trust in the electoral process due to non-compliance with campaign finance disclosure requirements. These alleged violations also raise concerns about the integrity of elections, as they may create an unfair advantage and distort the electoral playing field. Additionally, failure to disclose in-kind donations, provide required occupation and employer information for contributors, and potential misuse of campaign funds can undermine the public's confidence in the financial transparency of political campaigns.

Lastly, the involvement of individuals not listed as Treasurers, such as Mr. Hunt, raises questions about concealment and further affects public trust in the campaign's transparency and motives. These concerns directly impact the public's ability to participate in the electoral process with confidence and hold candidates and campaigns accountable for adhering to campaign finance laws.

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

The Campaign "Books" of the Candidate.

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

David L Hunt email:

Jon Smith:

Dan DeLano:

Kirynn Jensen:

Carla Urias

Amy Breitenstein

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.