



**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)**

May 16, 2019

Sent electronically to sherrya76@comcast.net and andrus@embarqmail.com

Subject: Complaint filed by Glen Morgan, PDC Case 27171

Dear Sherry Appleton and Alvin Andrus:

Enclosed is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Glen Morgan, concerning a complaint filed November 1, 2017 with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) alleging Sherry Appleton violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to timely and accurately report contributions, expenditures, and debt.

As noted in the letter to Mr. Morgan, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

However, pursuant to WAC 390-37-060(1)(b), this letter serves as a formal written warning concerning the campaign's failure to comply with the filing requirements noted in the enclosed letter to Mr. Morgan. Staff expects you to file timely and complete reports in future years in accordance with PDC laws and rules. This includes reporting debt under WAC 390-16-042.

The Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

If you have questions, you may contact Alice Fiman at 1-360-586-4746 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_

Alice Fiman  
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s \_\_\_\_\_

Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director



**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)**

May 16, 2019

Delivered electronically to [glen@wethegoverned.com](mailto:glen@wethegoverned.com)

Subject: Complaint regarding Sherry Appleton, PDC Case 27171

Dear Glen Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed November 1, 2017. Your complaint alleged Sherry Appleton may have violated: (1) RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to accurately and timely file Monetary Contributions reports (C-3 reports) and Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports); and (2) RCW 42.17A.240 for failure to properly report expenditures and debts on C-4 reports, including the failure to provide proper expenditure descriptions.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the C-3 and C-4 reports filed by the People to Elect Sherry Appleton (Campaign); and the response Alvin Andrus, Treasurer for the Campaign, submitted to the PDC and the Washington State Attorney General's Office (AGO), to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- Sherry Appleton, a member of the House of Representatives from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District, was first elected in 2004. She has also served on the Poulsbo City Council and was a Lobbyist registered with the Public Disclosure Commission.
- Sherry Appleton's most recent Candidate Registration (C-1), filed Jan. 10, 2019, listed People to Elect Sherry Appleton as the campaign name, with Alvin Andrus as Treasurer.

**Allegation #1: Failure to timely and accurately file C-3 and C-4 reports**

- The complaint alleged the Campaign failed to timely file C-3 and C-4 reports due during 2015, 2016 and 2017. You attached a spreadsheet with details of those reports.
- All reports listed were amended reports, with the original reports filed timely. The amended reports made no changes or minor changes.

**Allegation #2: Failure to disclose debts and obligations on C-4 reports.**

- The complaint alleged that the Campaign failed to disclose debts and obligations on C-4 reports and properly provide detailed breakdown descriptions of expenditures. You attached a spreadsheet with details of those expenditures.
- Alvin Andrus stated in his response, “each item was timely filed” and paid “in response to an invoice.”
- Under rules in place in 2016 and 2017, the expenditures for Besserman Associates, Corey Signs and Capitol City Press likely should have been reported as debt on a prior report. WAC 390-16-042 now requires disclosure of each order placed (but not paid), debt or other obligation (except loans) of more than \$750.
- The Campaign has been issued a formal written warning and is expected to report its debts properly under WAC 390-16-042 during future elections.

**Allegation #3: Failing to breakdown sub-vendor information for expenditures disclosed on C-4 reports**

- The complaint alleged that the Campaign failed to properly provide detailed breakdowns of expenditures. You attached a spreadsheet describing those expenditures.
- The Campaign was provided guidance on expenditures that require additional disclosure, and filed updated C-4 reports to provide additional information for the listed expenditures.

Based on these findings, staff has determined that in this instance, the failure to timely file reports of contributions and expenditures, breakdown sub-vendor information and disclose debts and obligations does not amount to an actual violation warranting further investigation.

However, pursuant to WAC 390-37-060(1)(b), the Campaign will receive a formal written warning concerning its failure to comply with filing requirements as noted in this letter.

The formal written warning will include staff’s expectation that People to Elect Sherry Appleton timely file future required reports of contributions and expenditures and disclose debts and obligations. The Commission will consider the formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

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 Alice Fiman at 1-360-586-4746 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s\_\_\_\_\_

Alice Fiman  
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s\_\_\_\_\_

Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director