



**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)**

July 12, 2024

Delivered electronically to Greg Cheney at [contact@electgregcheney.com](mailto:contact@electgregcheney.com)

Subject: Complaint filed by Wadi Yakhour, PDC Case 154039

Dear Greg Cheney:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Wadi Yakhour concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Mr. Yakhour, the PDC has dismissed this matter following 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, per WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), this serves as a formal written warning concerning the requirement under RCW 42.17A.320 for failing to provide complete sponsor identification on political advertising. Staff expects you, moving forward, to follow all laws, rules and PDC guidance on providing complete sponsor identification on political advertising. If violations of PDC laws or rules occur in the future, the Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action.

If you have questions, you may contact Tanya Mercier by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

/s/ Electronically signed

Tanya Mercier

Compliance Officer

/s/ Electronically signed

Peter Frey Lavallee

Executive Director



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July 12, 2024

Delivered electronically to Wadi Yakhour at email address [wadi@yakhour.com](mailto:wadi@yakhour.com)

Subject: Complaint against Greg Cheney, PDC Case 154039

Dear Wadi Yakhour:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review and assessment of the complaint you filed on May 7, 2024. The complaint alleged that Greg Cheney, an incumbent State Representative in the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, running in the 2024 election for State Senator of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, may have violated RCW 42.17A.320 by failing to provide complete sponsor identification on political advertising.

PDC staff reviewed the allegation(s); the applicable statutes and rules; the response(s) provided by the Respondent; the applicable PDC reports filed by the Respondent; and other relevant information, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- Greg Cheney filed their Candidate Registration (C-1), for State Senator of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, on April 26, 2024, for the Full Reporting option.
- You provided with your complaint a copy of a mailer from Greg Cheney, received by you on May 4, 2024. PDC staff reviewed the evidence supplied and determined the campaign mailer is political advertisement and that it should have included complete sponsor identification as defined in WAC 390-18-010.
- The campaign reported the political advertisement expenditure, on May 6, 2024, on C-4 #110212854, showing an order placed on April 29, 2024, and payment made also on April 29, 2024. The reporting was timely.

- In the response to the complaint, Greg Cheney wrote that once he realized the mailer did not include the required “paid for by” language, he instructed his campaign staff to contact the PDC for guidance. PDC staff instructed the campaign to disclose the expense at once so the cost of the mailer would be visible to the public. Mr. Cheney said, “there was no intent to mislead the public.”
- The respondent does not have other similar warnings or violations of PDC requirements.

Based on our findings staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to provide complete sponsor identification on a political advertisement does not amount to a violation that calls for further investigation.

Per WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), however, Greg Cheney will receive a formal written warning concerning the requirement under RCW 42.17A.320 to provide complete sponsor identification on political advertising. Staff expects the committee, moving forward, follow all laws, rules and PDC guidance on providing complete sponsor identification on political advertising. If violations of PDC laws or rules occur in the future, the Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action necessary and has dismissed this matter per RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Tanya Mercier by e-mail at [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

/s/ Electronically signed

Tanya Mercier  
Compliance Officer

/s/ Electronically signed

Peter Frey Lavalley  
Executive Director

cc: Greg Cheney