

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 • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

February 24, 2025

Delivered electronically to mattbrown.chair@gmail.com

Subject: Complaint filed by Sherry Bockwinkel, PDC Case 160636

Dear Yakima County Republican Central Committee:

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

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

However, pursuant to <u>WAC 390-37-060(1)(d)</u>, this serves as a formal written warning concerning your failure to comply with the sponsor identification requirements noted in the enclosed letter sent to Sherry Bockwinkel. Staff expects you to include full sponsor identification on advertisements in the future. The Commission will consider this 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 Tabitha Townsend at 1-360-753-1111, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at <u>pdc@pdc.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely, Endorsed by,

Electronically signed by Tabitha Townsend Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee

Tabitha Townsend Peter Frey Lavallee Compliance Officer Executive Director



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February 24, 2025

Delivered electronically to sherry@wfeg.info

Subject: Complaint regarding Yakima County Republican Central Committee, PDC Case 160636

Dear Sherry Bockwinkel:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on October 14, 2024. The complaint alleged that Yakima County Republican Central Committee, a Bonafide County Non-Exempt, Republican Party political committee, may have violated RCW 42.17A.320 for failure to provide complete sponsor identification on political advertising.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations and evidence you submitted; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by Yakima County Republican Central Committee (the "Respondent"); and other relevant information, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Background & Findings

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

- Pursuant to <u>RCW 42.17A.320(1)</u> all written political advertising, whether relating to candidates or ballot propositions, shall include the sponsor's name and address.
- Photos submitted by you of the door hangers distributed by the Respondent do not show a full sponsor ID. The front of the door hanger displays the logo of the Respondent. The back lists the website for the Respondent.
- The Respondent states in their response that they were unaware of the requirement for a door hanger to include complete sponsor ID.
- The Respondent stated that the remaining door hangers on hand have been updated with a sticker to include a complete sponsor ID.
- The Respondent does not have previous violations of PDC requirements within the last five years.

Based on our findings, staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to include full sponsor identification on advertisements does not appear to be a violation that warrants further investigation.

Pursuant to <u>WAC 390-37-060(1)(d)</u>, however, Yakima County Republican Central Committee will receive a formal written warning concerning the failure to include full sponsor identification on advertisements. The formal written warning will include staff's expectation that Yakima County Republican Central Committee to include full sponsor identification on advertisements in the future. The Commission will consider this 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 Tabitha Townsend at 1-360-753-1111, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at <u>pdc@pdc.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely, Endorsed by,

Electronically signed by Tabitha Townsend Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee

Tabitha Townsend Peter Frey Lavallee Compliance Officer Executive Director

cc: Yakima County Republican Central Committee