

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

March 5, 2025

Delivered electronically to jeffwilsonforsenate@gmail.com

Subject: Complaint filed by Gabe Magic, PDC Case 161385

Dear Stephen Jeffrey Wilson:

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

As noted in the letter to Gabe Magic, 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 the requirement to provide complete sponsor identification on advertisements. Staff expects you, in the future, will provide complete sponsor identification on advertisements. 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). Any allegations regarding reporting by you for the 2024 campaign not otherwise addressed here are hereby dismissed.

If you have questions, contact Alice Fiman, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Electronically signed Alice Fiman

Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

<u>Electronically signed Kim Bradford</u> Deputy Director

For Peter Frey Lavallee Executive Director



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March 5, 2025

Delivered electronically to Gabe Magic at manager@voteandiday.com

Subject: Complaint regarding Stephen Jeffrey Wilson, PDC Case 161395

Dear Gabe Magic:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint you filed Oct. 29, 2024. The complaint alleged that Stephen Jeffrey Wilson, a 2024 candidate for Washington State Senate, may have violated RCW 42.17A.320 for failure to provide party preference and 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 Stephen Jeffrey Wilson; any applicable PDC reports filed by Wilson; and other relevant information, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Applicable Laws & Rules

• RCW 42.17A.320 requires all written political advertising, whether relating to candidates or ballot propositions, to include sponsor's name and address. A complete sponsor identification includes the language "Paid for by" or "Sponsored by," including the sponsor's name and full address of the sponsor in the same location, to clearly identify the sponsor of the political advertisement. RCW 42.17A.320 also requires political advertising to list the party preference for candidates for partisan office.

PDC staff review found:

- Stephen Jeffrey Wilson sponsored the political advertising provided as evidence in the complaint.
- In reports filed with the PDC listing expenditures made to support a 2024 campaign for Washington State Senate, Wilson listed the expenditures to the Wahkiakum County Eagle and also Flannery Publications, publisher of the Willapa Harbor Herald.
- As noted in the complaint, the advertisements do not include the full mailing address and/or a party preference.

- In response to the complaint, Wilson provided a message he sent with his advertising orders that noted the advertisements should include "that the ad is paid for by Jeff Wilson, He is running as a Republican and his address is PO Box 2885, Longview, WA 98632."
- Wilson also stated the campaign did not confirm the information was included in the advertisements, stating "when it came to final drafts they were missed."
- During the investigation, PDC staff also noted Wilson failed to list expenditure details as required by RCW 42.17A.240 and WAC 390-16-037. On Nov. 22, 2024, Wilson updated the expenditures, adding the required details.

Summary and Resolution

Wilson acknowledged and took responsibility for the violation and there are no other PDC complaints within the last five years.

Pursuant to <u>WAC 390-37-060(1)(d)</u>, however, Stephen Jeffrey Wilson will receive a formal written warning concerning failure to provide party preference and complete sponsor identification on political advertising. The formal written warning will include PDC staff's expectation that Wilson, in the future, provide complete sponsor identification on advertisements. 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, contact Alice Fiman, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Electronically signed Alice Fiman
Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

Electronically signed Kim Bradford
Kim Bradford
Deputy Director
For Peter Frey Lavallee
Executive Director