

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

December 20, 2024

Delivered electronically to chad@magendanz.com

Subject: Complaint filed by Sejal Dogiparthi, PDC Case 163183

Dear Chad Magendanz:

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

As noted in the letter to Sejal Dogiparthi, the PDC 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, Endorsed by,

Electronically signed Alice Fiman Electronically signed Kim Bradford

Alice Fiman Kim Bradford Compliance Officer Deputy Director

For Peter Frey Lavallee
Executive Director



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December 20, 2024

Delivered electronically to sejaldogiparthi@gmail.com

Subject: Complaint regarding Chad Magendanz, PDC Case 163183

Sejal Dogiparthi:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed Nov. 4, 2024. The complaint alleged that Chad Magendanz, a 2024 Candidate for Washington State Senate, may have violated may have violated RCW 42.17A.405 and WAC 390-05-210 for accepting an over-limit contribution with collaboration of a Political Committee, Cascade Political Action Committee (Cascade PAC).

PDC staff reviewed the allegations and evidence you submitted; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by Chad Magendanz; the applicable PDC reports filed by Chad Magendanz; Chad Magendanz's data in the PDC contribution and expenditure database; and other relevant information, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Applicable Laws & Rules

- RCW 42.17A.405 describes the limits on monetary and in-kind contributions to candidate committees, including candidates running for Washington State Legislature.
- WAC 390-05-210 defines expenditures made by a person in cooperation, consultation, concert, or collaboration with, or at the request or suggestion of a candidate, or the candidate's authorized committee or agent, as a contribution to such candidate. In addition, the WAC states an expenditure is presumed to be made in cooperation, consultation, concert, or collaboration with, or at the request or suggestion of a candidate, or the candidate's authorized committee or agent, when the expenditure is made by or in consultation with any person who, during the twelve months preceding the expenditure, is or has been receiving any form of campaign-related compensation or reimbursement from the candidate, or the candidate's authorized committee or agent.

Background & Findings

Based on review, PDC staff found the following:

- On its registration filed Nov. 12, 2023, Cascade PAC listed three officers:
 - o Kyle Curtis, Treasurer

- o Jake Mayson, Co-Chair
- o Chad Magendanz, Chair
- Chad Magendanz filed with the PDC as a candidate for three offices in 2024:
 - o Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
 - o House of Representatives for the 5th Legislative District
 - o State Senate from the 5th Legislative District
- During the 2024 election cycle, Cascade PAC made four total expenditures to Chad Magendanz
 - o Two in-kind expenditures on June 6, 2024, to the OSPI campaign totaling \$1,663.86.
 - Two in-kind expenditures on June 24, 2024, to the State Senate campaign totaling \$1,663.86.
 - O Two independent expenditures (one dated June 5, 2024, and one dated Oct. 30, 2024) supporting the State Senate campaign totaling \$17,605.94
- The 2024 contribution limits per WAC 390-05-400 allowed a PAC to contribute \$1,200 per election to a legislative candidate.
- RCW 42.17A.005(30)(a) defines an Independent Expenditure as (i) made in support or in opposition to a candidate for office by a person who is not (A) a candidate for that office.
- As noted above, Chad Magendanz was listed as Chair of Cascade PAC, the entity making the Independent Expenditure. Also, the Independent Expenditure was made to support Chad Magendanz, the candidate for office.
- In response to PDC complaint 161807, Kyle Curtis, treasurer for Cascade PAC, stated Magendanz "emailed the Cascade PAC Board announcing his registration as Chair" on Jan. 28, 2024. Curtis provided PDC staff with the emails referenced.
- On Nov. 8, 2024, Cascade PAC updated its registration filed with the PDC. It listed:
 - o Kyle Curtis, Treasurer
 - o JT Wilcox, Chair
 - o Gretchen Borck, Secretary

Summary and Resolution

Chad Magendanz had resigned from Cascade PAC in January 2024. Due to this resignation, the Independent Expenditures made by Cascade PAC were not made in coordination with Magendanz. The PDC issued a warning to Cascade PAC in PDC Case 161807 due to its failure to timely update its Committee Registration to reflect Chad Magendanz's resignation as Committee Chair.

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, Endorsed by,

Electronically signed Alice Fiman Electronically signed Kim Bradford

Alice Fiman Kim Bradford
Compliance Officer Deputy Director

For Peter Frey Lavallee Executive Director

cc: Chad Magendanz