



**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 • Website: www.pdcca.wa.gov

July 15, 2025

Delivered electronically to grasseth4sheriff@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Case 173422

Joshua D Grasseth:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaints filed by Mark Howie on May 30, 2025 and Valerie Windsor on June 9, 2025. The complaints allege violations of RCW 42.17A.320 and WAC 390-18-10 by failing to include proper sponsor identification for political advertising, specifically failure to include sponsor identification on yard signs.

Applicable Laws and Rules

[RCW 42.17A.320](#) requires that all political advertising supporting or opposing a candidate or ballot proposition include the sponsor's name and address. Previously, campaign yard signs 4 feet by 8 feet or smaller were not required to include sponsor identification. The Washington State Legislature removed that exemption by passing House Bill 2032 in 2024. In 2024, yard signs printed prior to the effective date of the law were exempt from the new requirements. Starting in 2025, all yard signs, regardless of when they were printed, must have sponsor identification.

Background and Findings

- Joshua D Grasseth registered with the PDC as a 2025 candidate for Wahkiakum County Sheriff on May 18, 2025. Grasseth was a 2010 candidate for the same office.
- Both complaints included pictures of a black and red yard sign which they cite as evidence of a violation of RCW 42.17A.320. The sign “Josh Grasseth for Sherriff” does not include any sponsor identification.
- On June 2, 2025 Grasseth called the PDC with questions regarding the initial complaint and noted they would review the information available on our website regarding the new requirements for sponsor identification on yard signs.
- In a written response submitted to the PDC on June 10, 2025, Grasseth stated they have “placed stickers on 99% of my signs and intend to take care of all of them.”
- In the written response, Grasseth provided a photo of a yard sign with the sponsor identification.
- Grasseth stated they believed both complaints included the same photo as evidence and noted they have “been making every attempt to find and address every one of them.”

Summary and Resolution

Based on our findings, staff has determined that, in this instance, any violation that may have occurred was minor and has been cured. After consideration of the circumstances, further proceedings would not serve the purpose of this chapter. Under WAC 390-37-060, the executive director, at any time prior to consideration by the commission, may dismiss a complaint which on its face, or as shown by investigation, provides reason to believe that a violation has occurred, but also shows that the respondent is in substantial compliance with the relevant statutes or rules, or shows that formal enforcement action is not warranted.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with [RCW 42.17A.755\(1\)](#).

Pursuant to WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), however, you are receiving a formal written warning concerning including proper sponsor identification on all political advertising. PDC staff expect you to include complete sponsor identification 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.

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

Sincerely,

Electronically signed by Alice Fiman
Alice Fiman
Compliance Manager

Endorsed by,

Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavalley
Peter Frey Lavalley
Executive Director

cc: Mark Howie, Valerie Windsor