

[Charlotte Benjamin](#) reported via email on *Wed, 16 Jul 2025*

To: "Washington Public Disclosure Commission" <pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov>

External Email

Mr. Agina:

On behalf of the Washington Patriot PAC (WPP), I appreciate the opportunity to reply to the PDC complaint assigned #175492 lodged by Mr. Andrew Koeppen, former Chair of the Grant County Republican Party (GCRP),

WPP neither has committed any serious crime nor broken any WA state laws relative to settlement of the two fundraising items mentioned in Mr. Koeppen's complaint. Mr. Koeppen is under a severe misapprehension of the disposition of the final arrangements.

The two fundraising items were two firearms paid from Griggs Ace Hardware Store. WPP never received nor applied to receive the firearms in their name. For your information, according to WA state law, the WPP cannot sell guns and the GCRP cannot buy guns without passing through a licensed gun transfer company and waiting periods. That being said, the guns were neither donated nor sold to GCRP.

Griggs Ace Hardware sent the two firearms via courier to the Olde World Trading Company (OWTC) in Moses Lake, WA, which is licensed as a WA state gun dealer and transfer agent. Certificates for the two firearms were presented to the auctioneer at the GCRP Lincoln Day Dinner (LDD) as claim winners of the two firearms. The certificates included information that the winners could facilitate the firearms transfer at the OWTC. We understand this process was done legally under the auspices of WA state law and the appropriate lengthy waiting periods.

The only action that the WPP performed was the facilitation so that GCRP's LDD would have an efficient way to auction the firearms at their LDD.

We were contacted by the GCRP's treasurer querying the value of the firearms so a copy of the Griggs Ace Hardware receipt was transmitted to her. The GCRP then contributed the value of the firearms to the WA Patriot State PAC.

For your information, Ms Candace Erickson is not a member nor advisor to the WPP. Our understanding is that she sits on the Executive Board of the GCRP as their state committee woman. Also, Mr. Victor Lombardi is a member of the WPP, and a member of the GCRP Executive Board along with Ms. Erickson and Mr. Koeppen. The latter has recently be asked to resign as the GCRP Chair.

Let me state that the WWP is shocked and appalled at Mr. Koeppen's perverse behavior in this matter when WPP only wanted to assist for a successful and fruitful LDD.

We recently became aware that an unhappy Mr. Koeppen has been filing many PDC complaints, as well as record requests from the Grant County government on several members of the GCRP for sometime. Apparently, Mr. Koeppen is attempting to hurt members of his own party who rejected his inflexible behavior. He is now making these false claims about WPP.

Let me reiterate that WPP did not misrepresent its actions nor engage in unlawful behavior. Mr. Koeppen's allegations are false as it pertains to WPP.

If we can further answer any questions or assist in expeditiously resolving this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you.

Charlotte Benjamin

Treasurer for WPP