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| Respondent Names |
| Lynden Smithson |
| Complainant Name |
| Nicole Pippenger |
| Complaint Description |
| <p><u>Nicole Pippenger</u> reported via the portal <i>(Sat, 2 Aug 2025 at 5:13 PM)</i></p> <p>Mr. Smithson is attempting to pay for social media following, including likes and tags, by holding a contents for people to receive prizes from local businesses. People must also attend a fundraiser event to win in addition to the posting. Giving away prizes for social media likes can be seen as an attempt to leverage or abuse the prestige of judicial office to promote personal interests, including a campaign, which is generally prohibited under Washington's Code of Judicial Conduct. It can also be seen as a violation of fund raising requirements under RCW 42.17A.230.</p> |
| What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public? |
| Giving items for social media likes can be seen as an attempt to leverage or abuse the prestige of judicial office to promote personal interests, including a campaign, which is generally prohibited under Washington's Code of Judicial Conduct. it also creates a public distrust when any candidates violates the rules in place for those running for office. |
| List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found |
| <p>https://www.facebook.com/share/19WoHQqsnv/?mibextid=wwXIfr</p> <p>Screen shots from their facebook page describing the contest.</p> |
| List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them |
| <p>Lynden Smithson</p> <p>Alisha Smithson</p> <p>Other various campaign committee members</p> |
| Certification (Complainant) |
| I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. |