



**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.pdca.wa.gov

June 25, 2019

Delivered electronically to John Lovick

Subject: Complaints filed by Glen Morgan, PDC Cases 24643 and 25520

Dear Representative Lovick:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Glen Morgan concerning two complaints he filed against your 2015 Campaign for Snohomish County Executive, and your 2016 Campaign for State Representative, with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Mr. Morgan, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking any further enforcement action in these matters, since you completed a Statement of Understanding (SOU) and paid a \$900 civil penalty acknowledging violations RCW 42.17A.220, .235 and .240.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed the two complaints filed for PDC Cases 24643 and 25520, in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). If you have questions, you may contact Alice Fiman at 1-360-586-4746 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

s/ _____
Alice Fiman, Compliance Officer

Endorsed by:

s/ _____
BG Sandahl, Deputy Director for
Peter Lavalley, Executive Director



Public Disclosure Commission
Shining Light on Washington Politics Since 1972



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June 25, 2019

Delivered electronically to Glen Morgan at “glen@wethegoverned.com”

Subject: John Lovick complaints, PDC Cases 24643 and 25520

Dear Glen Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the two complaints you filed against John Lovick concerning his 2015 and 2016 Campaigns. Your complaint alleged John Lovick, a candidate for Snohomish County Executive in 2015, and a candidate for State Representative from the 44th Legislative District in 2016, may have violated (1) RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to list committee officers, (2) RCW 42.17A.235 for failure to timely file C-3 and C-4 reports, (3) RCW 42.17A.240 for failure to report in-kind contributions and expenditures and (4) RCW 42.17A.425 for prohibited expenditures by non-committee officers.

For your information, PDC staff has combined the two complaints you filed against John Lovick into one letter. PDC staff reviewed the allegations listed in the two complaints, the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements for a candidate, the applicable PDC reports filed by the Committee and data in the PDC contribution and expenditure database, and the responses provided by Jason Bennett of Argo Strategies, treasurer for the Committee to Re-elect John Lovick (Committee). Based on staff’s review, we found the following:

- Mr. Lovick is an incumbent State Representative from the 44th Legislative District having been elected to that office in 2016 and he was re-elected in 2018. Prior to that, he served as State Representative from 1998 to 2007, and he filed a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) declaring his candidacy for Snohomish County Sheriff in 2007, was elected Sheriff in 2007 and was re-elected to that office in 2011.
- On December 10, 2012, Sheriff Lovick filed a C-1 report declaring his candidacy for re-election to Snohomish County Sheriff in 2015 selecting the Full Reporting option.
- In 2013, Sheriff Lovick was appointed Snohomish County Executive. On February 27, 2013, he filed a C-1 report declaring his candidacy for Snohomish County Executive for the November 4, 2014 general election, selecting the Full Reporting option, and listing Sabrina Combs as Campaign Treasurer, and he was elected Snohomish County Executive.
- On February 17, 2015, County Executive Lovick filed a C-1 report for his re-election to Snohomish County Executive with an election date of November 3, 2015. He was not re-elected to office in 2015.

- In June 2016, Mr. Lovick was appointed to the House of Representatives representing the 44th Legislative District. On February 3, 2016, he filed a C-1 report declaring his candidacy for State Representative from the 44th District, and he was elected to office November 8, 2016.
- On August 22, 2017, Representative Lovick filed a C-1 report declaring his candidacy for re-election as State Representative from the 44th District, and he was re-elected to office on November 6, 2018.
- Staff's review found the Committee failed to (1) make timely deposits for some of the monetary contributions received within five business days; (2) timely and accurately file some of the C-3 and C-4 reports filed for calendar years 2015 and 2016, and (3) maintain all campaign records and the books of account as required to verify the contribution and expenditure information disclosed on C-3 and C-4 reports. Those reports included the following:

2015 Late filed reports (Snohomish County Executive):

- The Campaign failed to timely file C-4 reports disclosing contribution and expenditure activities to support the 2015 campaign for Snohomish County Executive for the Primary Election.
- The Campaign failed to timely file C-3 reports disclosing contributions received to support the Snohomish County Executive Campaign in the 2015 Primary Election totaling \$41,358.
- The Campaign acknowledged failing to timely file C-3 and C-4 reports, and deposit monetary contributions received within five business days of receipt for the 2015 elections for Snohomish County Executive and Sheriff's Offices. In addition, the two 2015 Campaigns failed to properly and adequately maintain campaign records of contribution and expenditure activities undertaken by the two Campaigns, including the date received and deposited for monetary contributions.

2016 Late filed reports (State Representative in the 44th Legislative District):

- The Campaign failed to accurately file C-4 reports for the August 2, 2016 primary election providing the required breakdown of expenditures, including work sub-contracted and a detailed description of the services provided for political advertising sponsored by the Campaign. The sub-vendor breakdown and description details included a \$15,031 expenditure made on July 13, 2016, to Chinook Consulting for printing and postage; a \$7,831 expenditure made on July 13, 2016, to Chinook Consulting to print a "Bio brochure"; a \$7,828 expenditure made on July 18, 2016, to Chinook Consulting to print an "Education brochure."
- The Campaign failed to accurately file C-4 reports for the November 8, 2016 general election providing the required breakdown of expenditures, including work sub-contracted and a detailed description of the services provided for political advertising sponsored by the Campaign. The sub-vendor breakdown and description details was required for a \$50,000 expenditure made on September 26, 2016, to Chinook Consulting for a cable TV media buy; a \$15,000 expenditure made on October 12, 2016, to Chinook Consulting for an additional cable buy; and a \$10,214 expenditure made on October 17, 2016, to Chinook Consulting to design and print an "Image/Bio brochure."

2018 Timely filed reports (State Representative in the 44th Legislative District):

- On September 11, 2017, the Campaign filed an amended C-1 report disclosing it had changed Treasurer's and listed Jason Bennett with ARGO Strategies as Treasurer.
- The 2018 Campaign timely and accurately filed C-3 and C-4 reports throughout the year, including the 21-Day, 7-Day Pre-Primary and Post-Primary C-4 reports, and the 21-Day, 7-Day Pre-General and Post-General Election C-4 reports disclosing \$295,891 in contributions received and \$291,182 in expenditures made. In addition, the 2018 Campaign also timely filed two Last Minute Contribution reports (LMC reports) for the 2018 primary election, and eight LMC reports for the 2018 general election.

Response from Campaign

- Mr. Bennett stated the issues listed in the complaint occurred where the treasurer either filed an amended C-3 or C-4 reports correcting information an earlier report and that amended report "didn't overwrite the initial data" or the Campaign filed the reports electronically using the wrong filer ID so it was posted to the wrong Campaign. He noted that John Lovick had two open campaign accounts in 2015, one for his Snohomish County Sheriff re-election efforts and one for his Snohomish County Executive race.
- Mr. Bennett also noted Mr. Lovick's daughter was a volunteer treasurer for his Campaign, had been seriously ill during 2015 and worked "with the PDC throughout her illness to continue providing reports and disclosure."
- Mr. Bennett of Argo Strategies, Rep. Lovick's treasurer for the 2018 campaign cycle, noted "after discussions with the Public Disclosure Commission to clarify who should be listed on Candidate Registration (C-1) forms, it is redundant to put the treasurer and candidate on as committee officers. Additionally, we do not believe that the other folks listed on in this section rise to level of 'committee officer.'" Concerning the Facebook page to Retain John Lovick, he stated that it contained required sponsor identification for political advertising.
- Mr. Bennet's stated: "Mr. Lovick already had a current F-1 report on file since he was already an elected official, so his updated F-1 report would not have been due within 2 weeks, but rather by April 2016." Staff's review confirmed John Lovick filed an F-1 report on March 19, 2015 disclosing personal financial for calendar year 2014, and an F-1 report on March 15, 2016 disclosing personal financial for calendar year 2015, which he amended on May 20, 2016.

As noted above, the Committee failed to (1) make timely deposits for some of the monetary contributions received within five business days; (2) timely and accurately file some of the C-3 and C-4 reports filed for calendar years 2015 and 2016, and (3) maintain all campaign records and the books of account as required to verify the contribution and expenditure information disclosed on C-3 and C-4 reports. However, Mr. Lovick's daughter was a volunteer treasurer for his Campaign, was seriously ill during 2015 and attempted to work with the PDC during this time. In addition, the Campaign hired a professional Treasurer for 2018 and timely filed all C-3 and C-4 reports for the 2018 election cycle.

John Lovick completed a Statement of Understanding (SOU) and paid a \$900 civil penalty in accordance with WAC 390-37-143 (Brief Enforcement Penalty Schedule), acknowledging six violations of RCW 42.17A. The violations were failing to: (1) timely deposit monetary contributions within five business days of receipt; (2) timely and accurately file C-3 and C-4 reports reports during calendar years 2015 and 2016; (3) maintain campaign records and the required books of account to verify the information disclosed on C-3 and C-4 reports.

The \$900 penalty assessed in this matter resolves the allegations listed in your complaints concerning the late filed reports and other matters.

Based on the above findings and the SOU, staff has determined that, in this instance, this matter does not warrant further investigation. The PDC has dismissed these two matters, PDC Cases 24643 and 25520, in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Alice Fiman at 1-360-586-4746 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail fdc@fdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/ _____
Alice Fiman, Compliance Officer

s/ _____
BG Sandahl, Deputy Director for
Peter Lavallee, Executive Director

cc: John Lovick

