



**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

June 3, 2019

Sent electronically to david.prutzman@hotmail.com

Subject: Complaint filed by Dave Churchman

Dear: David Prutzman

Enclosed is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Dave Churchman, concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) alleging you violated RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to timely register a political committee, RCW 42.17A.235 for failure to report contributions and expenditures as a political committee and RCW 42.17A.320 for failure to disclose true sponsors. All allegations relate to the of Strong Mayor initiative in Puyallup.

As noted in the letter to Dave Churchman, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of filing accurately and timely. PDC staff expects in the future that you will file accurate reports in accordance with PDC laws and rules, including timely reporting all campaign expenditures as noted in the letter below.

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 pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s_____

Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s_____

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director



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Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdcca.wa.gov

June 3, 2019

Delivered electronically to davechurchman@icloud.com

Subject: Complaint regarding David Prutzman, PDC Case 48709

Dear Dave Churchman:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed March 15, 2019. Your complaint alleged David Prutzman violated RCW 42.17A.205 for failing to timely register a political committee, RCW 42.17A.235 for failing to report contributions and expenditures as a political committee and RCW 42.17A.320 for failing to disclose true sponsors. All allegations relate to the of Strong Mayor initiative in Puyallup.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by David Prutzman, Todd McKellips and Barbara Dase and any applicable PDC reports and data in the PDC contribution and expenditure database to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- In January 2019, petitions were circulated in the city of Puyallup to gather signatures for a proposal to place a strong mayor initiative on the special election ballot in April.
- David Prutzman ordered petitions, however listed the sponsor as Reachout Northwest, a group which describes itself as “a non-profit from and for Washington State. We fight for liberty, religious freedom, legal immigration, fair taxes and education.” The business address for the Chairman of Pierce County Republicans was listed as where the petitions should be mailed.
- In his response, Prutzman stated “Reachout NW was behind the Strong Mayor initiative and was to receive any financial donations or pay any expenditures if any were to arise. I had authorization from Reachout NW to name them as the sponsor for the initiative.”
- Both Reachout Northwest leadership and Dave McMullan, then Chairman of Pierce County Republicans, stated in PDC Case 44956 that there was a misunderstanding and there was no agreement for those groups to sponsor the initiative for strong mayor in Puyallup. Reachout Washington, a political committee registered with the PDC that

shares board members in common with Reachout NW, also stated they did not sponsor or have any coordination with Prutzman or the special Puyallup election.

- Prutzman stated he did not expend any funds to support the initiative, however he stated he placed an order for Barbara Dase to format the initiative and Todd McKellips to print the documents.
- Dase's work totaled \$93.75 and was billed to Prutzman. She stated she has not been paid.
- McKellips's work totaled \$14.88 and he stated he was paid in cash by Dave McMullen. McMullen has not responded to this allegation.
- As both orders were placed by Prutzman and totaled \$100 or more, Prutzman was required to file an Independent Spending and Electioneering Communications (C-6) report to report an Independent Expenditure for \$100 or more.
- In February 2019, according to local news reports, the Puyallup City Council approved a motion to end discussion of changing the city's form of government.

Based on these findings, staff has determined that in this instance, the failure to report expenditures of \$108.63 does not amount to an actual violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding David Prutzman about the importance of the requirements regarding filing accurately and timely in future years in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

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

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

/s_____

Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director