

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

December 7, 2020

Delivered electronically to Jon Petit

Subject: Complaints filed against Our Region PAC (3), PDC Case 77589

Mr. Petit:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Joe Hyer concerning the third complaint he filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) against Our Region PAC.

As noted in the letter addressed to Mr. Hyer, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking any enforcement action concerning this matter.

The PDC has dismissed this complaint in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). If you have questions, you may contact Kurt Young by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,	Endorsed by,
<u>/s</u>	<u>/s</u>
Electronically Signed Kurt Young	Electronically Signed BG Sandahl, Deputy Director
Compliance Officer	For Peter Lavallee, PDC Executive Director





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December 7, 2020

Delivered electronically to Joe Hyer

Subject: Complaint filed against Our Region PAC (3), PDC Case 77589

Mr. Hyer:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the third complaint you filed on October 5, 2020, against Our Region PAC, a new 2020 political committee registered with the PDC. The complaint alleged that Our Region PAC may have violated RCW 42.17A.240 by failing to properly disclose committee loans and loan repayments made during the 2020 election cycle.

PDC staff reviewed the complaint and allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements for a political committee; the reports filed by Our Region PAC; and the responses from Jon Petit on behalf of the political committee. Based on staff's review we found the following:

- On July 2, 2020, Our Region PAC filed a Registration with the PDC disclosing that it was a Continuing Political Committee selecting the Full Reporting Option and listing Jon Petit as President and as a Ministerial Treasurer.
- On July 13, 2020, Our Region PAC (ORP) filed two Monetary Contributions reports (C-3 reports) disclosing a \$10,000 contribution had been received from Responsible Economic Growth in Our Neighborhood PAC Region PAC on July 10, 2020, and a \$100 monetary loan had been received from Jon Petit.
- On July 28, 2020, ORP timely filed the 7-Day Pre-Primary Election Summary Contribution and Expenditures report (C-4 report) covering the period July 14 through 27, 2020, and disclosing no contributions had been received, and that \$6,071 in total expenditures had been made during the period.
- The C-4 report disclosed ORP made two \$100 expenditures on July 21, 2020, with the descriptions "LOAN REPAYMENT" and "Repay Loan" and the Loan document Schedule L, Part 2 listed one \$100 loan repayment made to Mr. Petit with \$0 still owed. However, Schedule L, Part 4 listed a \$100 loan as the loan amount still owed to Mr. Petit.

- Mr. Petit stated he made only one \$100 loan, and that he received only one \$100 loan repayment from ORP (check #1003). stated that he inadvertently made a duplicate entry for the loan repayment into the Online Reporting of Campaign Activity (ORCA) program, and there was no second \$100 loan or loan repayment.
- Mr. Petit stated he made several attempts to file an amended C-4 report, and that he was able to correct the outstanding loans owed amount and delete the \$100 loan owed, so the balance owed to him is correct and showing \$0. He stated that he made several attempts to amend the C-4 report disclosing the duplicate \$100 loan repayment but has not been successful in correcting that ORCA entry to date.
- On November 24, 2020, PDC staff sent an email to Mr. Petit requesting that he contact PDC Filer Assistance staff and make another attempt to file an amended 7-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report, deleting one of the two \$100 loan repayments that were listed as having been made to you on July 21, 2020.
- On December 3, 2020, Mr. Petit filed an amended 7-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report, deleting the second \$100 loan repayment expenditure that he had inadvertently entered into the ORCA program for ORP.

For the 2020 election cycle, Our Region PAC disclosed receiving \$10,100 in total monetary contributions, \$9,633.90 in total expenditures made, with a cash on hand balance of \$466.10. The \$100 loan repayment that was inadvertently duplicated by Mr. Petit was not a material amount compared to the overall total committee activity, and the public was not denied of any campaign finance information since the loan repayment was listed twice.

Based on this information, PDC staff found no evidence that would constitute a material violation that would require conducting a more formal investigation into the complaint or pursuing any enforcement action in this instance.

The PDC has dismissed this complaint in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). If you have questions, you may contact Kurt Young by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,	Endorsed by,
<u>/s</u>	<u>/s</u>
Electronically Signed Kurt Young	Electronically Signed BG Sandahl, Deputy Director
Compliance Officer	For Peter Lavallee, PDC Executive Director

cc: Jon Petit with Our Region PAC

