



**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

April 8, 2021

Sent electronically to votemikevolz@gmail.com

Subject: Complaints filed by Sean Gannon, PDC Case 84416

Dear James M. (Mike) Volz:

Enclosed is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Sean Gannon concerning a complaint January 21, 2021 filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) alleging violations of RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to timely and accurately disclose contributions and expenditures.

As noted in the letter below, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of timely and accurately reporting contributions and expenditures and PDC staff expects in the future you will timely file accurate and complete reports, in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

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

Sincerely,

/s

Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director



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April 8, 2021

Sent electronically to gannonsp@whitman.edu

Subject: Complaints regarding James M. (Mike) Volz, PDC Case 84416

Dear Sean Gannon:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint you filed January 21, 2021. Your complaint alleged James M. (Mike) Volz violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 by failing to timely and accurately disclose contributions and expenditures, specifically for failing to timely file Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure (C-4) reports in 2016, 2018 and 2020 election years.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the applicable PDC reports and the response from Mike Volz to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations. Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- Volz was first elected to the Washington State Legislature in 2018 and re-elected in 2020, representing the 6th Legislative District in the House of Representatives.
- As noted in the complaint, Volz ran unsuccessfully for the same position in 2016.
- The complaint lists:
 - Two C-4 reports Volz filed late in 2016, which included a 21-day Pre-General Election C-4 report filed one day late.
 - One C-4 report filed eight days late in March 2018 and C-4 reports not filed in July, August, September and October 2017.
 - Six C-4 reports filed late during the 2020 election.
- Volz responded, stating "I acknowledge that I have been late on 7 occasions over the last 3 election cycles...The violations were unintentional and did not occur on a regular basis. The 10/18/2016 report was late due to a computer error and I submitted an email to that effective. I thought the 09/10/19 report was submitted, but did not realize until two weeks later that it did not get fully processed. I missed the 12/28/20 report when I was recovering from an illness."
- Regarding the reports not filed in July, August, September and October 2017 and February and March 2020, Volz stated there was no activity by the campaign those months.
- C-4 reports are required monthly from the beginning of the campaign through May of the election year. However, the monthly report is only required if the campaign has more than \$200 in contributions or expenditures during a month.

Based on these findings, staff has determined, in this instance, the failure to timely file C-4 reports does not amount a violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding James M. (Mike) Volz about the importance of filing timely, accurate and complete reports in accordance with PDC laws and rules and expects in the future Volz will timely file accurate and complete reports, 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, contact Alice Fiman toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail pdcc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s

Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director