

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 7, 2021

Sent electronically to Mary Winkes at mmcspo@yahoo.com

Subject: Complaint regarding Tyler LeMasters, PDC Case 88768

Dear Ms. Winkes:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on April 1, 2021. Your complaint alleged that Tyler LeMasters, a first-time candidate for City Council Member District 2, Position 2, for the City of Spokane in 2021, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to timely and accurately file statutory contribution and expenditure reports as required by law.

PDC staff reviewed your allegation(s); the applicable statute(s), rule(s), and reporting requirements; the Monetary Contribution (C-3) and Summary Campaign Contribution and Expenditure (C-4) reports filed by the Committee to Elect Tyler LeMasters (Campaign); and the April 15, 2021, response to the complaint provided by Tyler LeMasters on behalf of the Campaign.

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

• On January 8, 2021, Tyler LeMasters timely filed a Candidate Registration (C-1) report and selected the Full Reporting Option.

Alleged failure to report timely and accurate Monetary Contribution (C-3) and the Summary Campaign Contribution and Expenditure (C-4) reports (RCW 42.17A.235 and .240)

- Staff's review found that the January and two February C-3s that were due on February 10, 2021 and March 10, 2021, were filed 48 and 20 days late, respectively. Staff also found that the Campaign failed to file C-4 reports for the months of January 2021, even though it made expenditures for yard signs, business cards, Campaign website and personal cellphone use for Campaign related phone calls.
- In its response to the complaint, the Campaign, by way of Tyler LeMasters, stated: "I am a new candidate with limited help. I have a designated treasurer but he was confused about how to fully report some of the information I was sending him. We didn't realize it wasn't being fully recorded until recently. Before we received this complaint we were able to file correctly which doesn't change that we made a mistake but we feel like we have the system going now. I would be more than happy to disclose any more information that you need."

• On May 25, 2020, the Campaign successfully amended the January 2021 C-4 report that was filed on April 7, 2021, to depict expenditures made toward Campaign business cards, website, and yard signs with stakes, including reporting in-kind contribution expenditure(s) for use of personal cellphone for campaign related phone calls. This report was due no later than February 10, 2021 and was filed 55 days late. The Campaign also amended a total of six C-3 reports to better reflect the monetary contributions received by the Campaign. Additionally, the Campaign also amended its Candidate Registration (C-1) report on May 18, 2021, to include Dave Snyder as a ministerial treasurer.

Based on these findings staff has determined that, in this instance, the Campaign's failure to timely file three C-3 reports and the January C-4 report in the 2020 election year, does not amount to a violation warranting further investigation. Tyler LeMasters is a first-time candidate who has fully acknowledged violations of RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 and cooperated with the PDC staff by taking responsibility and filing/amending the pertinent C-3 reports and the January C-4 report to depict the missing expenditures.

However, Tyler LeMasters will receive a reminder letter concerning his failure to make sure that statutory reports are reported accurately and timely as required by the law. Tyler LeMasters will be informed that the PDC staff expects his Campaign to file timely and accurate statutory reports in the future and for the remainder of the 2021 election year/cycle.

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 Erick Agina, Compliance Officer at (360) 586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,	Endorsed by:
s/ Erick Agina, Compliance Officer	s/

cc: Tyler LeMasters

