



**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

July 16, 2021

Delivered electronically to vaccaro.nino88@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Case 94532

Dear Nino Vaccaro:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Sam Scott concerning a complaint filed June 21, 2021 with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) alleging violations of RCW 42.17A.205, .235 and .240 for failure to timely register with the PDC and timely and accurately report contributions and expenditures on Monetary Contributions (C-3) reports and Full Summary Contributions and Expenditures (C-4) reports.

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

PDC staff reminds you about the importance of timely and accurately filing with the PDC and staff expects in the future you will timely and accurately file 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

/s

Kim Bradford
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director



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July 16, 2021

Delivered electronically to stscott.legal@gmail.com

Subject: Complaint regarding Nino Vaccaro, PDC Case 94532

Dear Sam Scott:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint you filed June 21, 2021. The complaint alleged Nino Vaccaro, a 2021 candidate for Mayor of Steilacoom, violated RCW 42.17A.205, .235 and .240 by failing to timely register with the PDC and timely and accurately report contributions and expenditures on Monetary Contributions (C-3) reports and Full Summary Contributions and Expenditures (C-4) reports.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the applicable PDC reports, the evidence provided in the complaint and a response from Nino Vaccaro, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations. We found the following:

- According to PDC and Pierce County records, there are two candidates registered for the Town of Steilacoom, Mayor, indicating there is no primary election for this office.
- Vaccaro timely filed a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1) with the PDC on May 28, 2021, noting a campaign start date of May 21, 2021. Vaccaro is a first-time candidate for public office.
- Vaccaro registered his candidacy with the PDC for Town of Steilacoom, Mayor, on July 7, 2021, filing under mini reporting. The registration was filed 40 days late.
- The mini reporting option is only available to candidates who will raise and spend no more than \$5,000, in addition to the amount spent on their filing fee, and who will receive no more than \$500 from any one contributor other than themselves. Candidates choosing mini reporting do not file contribution and expenditure reports, but they must register with the PDC, keep records of their contributions and expenditures, file the F-1 within two weeks of becoming a candidate, allow public inspections of campaign books during the 10 calendar days before an election, and include proper sponsor identification, any party preference and other required elements needed for political advertising.
- In response, Vaccaro stated "I have attended the two classes on filing with the PDC, and have registered my mini reporting campaign as well. Please let Samuel Scott (the

offended) know that he can contact me whenever he wants to see my paper ledger. I plan on staying a mini reporter for the duration of this race. With regards to allegation two: the C-3,4 reports I have been told repeatedly that I am exempt from those reports per mini reporting regulations.”

- Once made aware of the complaint and requirements, Vaccaro attended PDC training for new candidates and promptly registered with the PDC.

Based on these findings, and the fact that Vaccaro is a first-time candidate and timely filed his F-1 report, there is no apparent intent to conceal candidacy, there is no primary election, and the candidate promptly took action to comply, PDC staff has determined that, in this instance, the failure to timely register with the PDC and timely and accurately report contributions and expenditures does not amount to a violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding Nino Vaccaro about the importance of timely registering with the PDC and filing required 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 at pdcc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s

Alice Fiman
Compliance Officer

/s

Kim Bradford
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director