

## State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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August 19, 2021

Delivered electronically to Glen Morgan, at glen@wethegoverned.com

Subject: Complaint regarding DeSean Quinn, PDC Case 94578

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on June 28, 2021. Your complaint alleged that DeSean Quinn, an incumbent councilmember for Position 7, in the City of Tukwila, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to file timely and accurate Summary Campaign Contribution and Expenditure (C-4) report for the month of April 2021.

PDC staff reviewed your allegation; the applicable statute, rules, and reporting requirements; the 2021 C-3 and C-4 reports filed by DeSean Quinn (Respondent); and the July 23, 2021, response to the complaint provided by Jason Bennett, Treasurer, on behalf of the Respondent.

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

• On April 4, 2021, DeSean Quinn timely filed a Candidate Registration (C-1) report and selected the Full Reporting Option.

## Alleged failure to file an accurate C-4 report for the Month of April 2021 (RCW 42.17A.235 and .240).

- The complaint alleged that the Committee failed to report any expenditures report for the month of April 2021. Specifically, you alleged that the Respondent began his campaign on April 14, 2021, and therefore his first monthly C-4 should have been filed on May 10, 2021, but was not filed until June 9, 2021.
- In his response to the allegation, the Respondent, by way of Jason Bennett stated: "There wasn't any activity for the month of April as De'Sean fully launched his campaign in May. No debts were accrued and no revenue raised or money spent until the month of May. Hence, no report due if there isn't activity for a reporting month RCW 42.17A.240(9)(a)."
- The complaint also alleged that the Respondent's campaign failed to properly identify who paid for the campaign website specifically, the complaint states: "At the bottom of Quinn's webpage attached (Printed May 20, 2021) he shows Paid for De'Sean Quinn" This does not match the campaign name on his C1,

which should be "People for De'Sean Quinn (please note, the screen capture I'm providing as an example from the campaign website clearly shows this mistake, but is also look like they might have partially corrected it later – regardless it is a violation)."

- In his response to the allegation, the Respondent, by way of his treasurer Jason Bennett stated: "I don't follow his disclaimer issue he details. The Paid for by on the website matches the PDC reports as filed. See the website footer and the reports we file on De'Sean's behalf."
- Staff noted that the sponsor identification on the Respondent's website contains the correct name of the Campaign as depicted in the Candidate Registration (C-1) filed with the PDC as "People for De'Sean Quinn," hence the sponsor identification on the website as "Paid for by People for De'Sean Quinn." It appears that the incorrect sponsor identification you saw on the Respondent's Campaign website in May 2021, was corrected after or prior to this complaint being filed with the PDC.
- Regarding the third allegation concerning the disclosure of expenditures related to photography services provided by Jacqueline Olivia Photography, the Respondent, by way of his treasurer Jason Bennett, stated: "There was some confusion whether we would pay Jacqueline for her services, if a vendor on this campaign was covering the expense, or if the \$225 worth of photos she took were going to be inkinded to the campaign. Because the amount is well below the \$750 debt reporting amount, we believe there wasn't a reporting obligation for this. If the PDC would like us to instead show this as an inkind contribution, we are happy to amend the May report to reflect that."
- Staff noted that the Respondent should have reported the \$225 worth of photos taken by Jacqueline Olivia Photography as an in-kind and has asked the Respondent to amend the May Report to depict the \$225 as an in-kind contribution from Jacqueline Olivia Photography. The respondent amended the May report on August 10, 2021, and reported the \$225 worth of photos taken by Jacqueline Olivia Photography as an in-kind donation.

PDC staff will remind De'Sean Quinn about the importance of timely and accurate disclosure of all contribution and expenditure activities, and timely filings of all future reports in accordance with the statutory scheme, as codified in RCW 42.17A.

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 erick.agina@pdc.wa.gov

Sincerely,	Endorsed by:
/s	/s
Erick Agina, Compliance Officer	Kim Bradford, Deputy Director for
	Peter Lavallee, Executive Director
cc: De'Sean Quinn	
Jason Bennett, Treasurer – People for De'Sean Quinn	