



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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September 1, 2021

Sent electronically to Amber Baker at rosemoon@fairpoint.net

Subject: Complaint regarding LaDon Linde, PDC Case 96274

Dear Ms. Baker:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on July 14, 2021. Your complaint alleged that LaDon Linde, a 2021 first-time candidate for County Commissioner, Position 3, in Yakima County, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235, .240, and WAC 390-16-037 and WAC 390-16-205 for failure to timely and accurately file contribution and expenditure reports as required by law.

PDC staff reviewed your allegation(s); the applicable statute(s), rule(s), and reporting requirements; and the Monetary Contribution (C-3) and Summary Campaign Contribution and Expenditure (C-4) reports filed by the Committee to Elect LaDon Linde (Campaign).

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

- On May 21, 2020, LaDon Linde filed a Candidate Registration (C-1) report and selected the Full Reporting Option and listing Debra Manjarrez as Treasurer.

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), and WAC 390-16-037 and WAC 390-16-205.

- Staff reviewed the five exhibits (three C-3 and two C-4 reports) you submitted with the complaint as evidence of possible violations of RCW 42.17A.235, .240, and WAC 390-16-037 and WAC 390-16-205.
- Staff noted that the Campaign failed to timely report two C-3 reports for contributions received on June 13, 14 and 15, and June 16 and 17, 2021, that were due no later than June 23, 2021, and June 25, 2021, respectively. The two reports were filed 5 days and 3 days late, respectively.

- Staff also noted that the Campaign failed to include the description of the payments/expenditures made by the Campaign on the May and the 21-day pre-primary (C-4) reports. The expenses lacked proper description(s) and breakdown required by law/rule. For example, the Campaign did not include the number of Signs, Envelopes and Cards paid to *Smith Phillips Dipietro* in the amount of \$1,631.46 and \$6,274.38 on May 3 and May 25, 2021, respectively.
- On August 3, 2021, the Campaign amended the pertinent C-4 reports and included detailed description of the number of items purchased.

Based on these findings staff has determined that, in this instance, the Campaign's failure to timely file two C-3 reports and properly/accurately describe the purpose of the expenditures to include the number/quantity of items purchased by the Campaign on the May and 21-day pre-primary C-4 reports, does not amount to a violation warranting further investigation.

There were a few expenditures made by the Campaign either to a vendor or as an in-kind from Mr. Linde, in the months of May and June – July 12, 2021, for which a more detailed explanation or description such as the number/quantity of items purchased should have been provided. The Campaign also failed to timely file a couple of C-3 reports for the month of June 2021. However, these shortcomings were mitigated by the fact that the Campaign was responsive and amended the pertinent reports as soon as the deficiencies were brought to their attention.

However, LaDon Linde will receive a reminder letter concerning his 2021 Campaign's failure to timely file a couple of C-3 reports and failure to properly breakdown or describe monetary campaign expenditures on two C-4 reports, as required by RCW 42.17A.235, .240, and WAC 390-16-037 and WAC 390-16-205.

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 pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/_____
Erick Agina, Compliance Officer

s/_____
Kim Bradford, Deputy Director for
Peter Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: LaDon Linde