

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

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Subject: PDC Case 29917

Dear Tacoma City Council:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Joe Kunzler concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted below to Joe Kunzler, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter.

If you have questions, you may contact Micaiah Ragins at 1-360-586-4555 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at micaiah.ragins@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,
/s
Micaiah Ragins
Compliance Coordinato
Endorsed by,
/s
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director



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2/14//2018

Delivered electronically to "growlernoise@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding the Tacoma City Council, PDC Case 29917

Dear Joe Kunzler:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its initial review of the complaint you filed on January 4th, 2018. Your complaint alleged that the Tacoma City Council and the City Clerk may have violated RCW 42.17A.555 by allowing Alex Tsimerman to promote a political campaign during the Council's public comment period.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations and as a result of staff's initial review, we found the following:

- Alex Tsimerman introduced himself with a brief reference to the 2018 U.S Senate Election, although his words were not clearly articulated in the video: Alex Tsimerman Public Comment Video
- The topics that Mr. Tsierman attempted to speak about were not coherent and he was cautioned several times by the City Council to stay on the agenda topic throughout the video clip.
- Mr. Tsimerman was non-compliant and argumentative during the public comment period, which lead the Tacoma City Council to promptly terminate his time at the podium.
- Alex Tsimerman is not registered as a Candidate with the Public Disclosure Commission and there is no clear indication in the video that his comments were related to any political campaign activity or that the topics he discussed were supported by the Tacoma City Council.

Based on these initial findings, staff has determined that in this instance, there is no evidence that supports a finding of a material violation warranting further investigation.

The PDC has closed the matter, and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into your complaint or pursuing further enforcement action in this case.

If you have questions, you may contact Micaiah Ragins at 1-360-586-4555 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at micaiah.ragins@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,
/s
Micaiah Ragins Compliance Coordinator
Endorsed by,
/s
Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director

cc: Tacoma City Council