



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](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdcca.wa.gov](http://www.pdcca.wa.gov)

September 6, 2023

Sent electronically to Misipati Semi Bird at [semi@birdforgovernor.com](mailto:semi@birdforgovernor.com)

Subject: Complaint filed by Joseph Gilmour, PDC Case 138400

Mr. Semi Bird:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Joseph Gilmour concerning the complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) on June 2, 2023.

As noted in the letter to Mr. Gilmour, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into this allegation or take further enforcement action in this matter.

However, pursuant to WAC 390-060(1)(d), this letter constitutes a formal written warning to you concerning the failure to timely and accurately report statutory monetary and contribution reports, as required by law. The Commission will consider the formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws/rules.

If you have questions, you may contact Erick Agina at (360) 586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [erick.agina@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:erick.agina@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Erick O. Agina, Compliance Officer

s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Frey Lavalley, Executive Director



**Public Disclosure Commission**  
Shining Light on Washington Politics Since 1972





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September 6, 2023

Sent electronically to Joseph Gilmour at [jmfgilmour91@gmail.com](mailto:jmfgilmour91@gmail.com)

Subject: Complaint regarding Misipati Semi Bird, PDC Case 138400

Dear Mr. Gilmour:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on June 2, 2023. The complaint alleged that Misipati Semi Bird, a candidate for Governor in the State of Washington in 2024, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to timely and accurately file Cash Receipts Monetary Contributions (C-3) and the Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure (C-4) reports disclosing contributions received and expenditures undertaken by his campaign.

PDC staff reviewed your allegation; the attachments provided with the complaint; the applicable statutes, rule(s) and reporting requirements; the C-3 and C-4 reports filed by The Committee to Elect M. Semi Bird (Campaign); the responses to the complaint provided by Semi Bird and Kelli Crabb, Treasurer on behalf of the campaign; and other relevant information to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

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

- The complaint alleged that Semi Bird failed to timely and accurately disclose in-kind contributions received from Ladies of Liberty Tri-Cities for an event hosted for the Campaign by the Ladies of Liberty Tri-Cities on May 10, 2023. Specifically, you attached Facebook posts of the Ladies of Liberty Tri-Cities events and activities hosted to benefit Semi Bird's 2024 campaign for governor, and alleged that these activities, specifically, the May 10, 2023, meet and greet event, should have been reported as an in-kind contribution to the 2024 Semi Bird campaign for governor.
- In its responses to the complaint, Semi Bird and Kellie Crabb, Treasurer, stated: "As far as I can tell there were no 'In-Kind' donations between the campaign and the Ladies for Liberty – Tri Cities. Here is what we are acknowledging as the facts: 1. No expenses were incurred by either the Ladies of Liberty or Semi Bird's campaign. 2. Gratuities and microphone charges are part of the catering side of the CG Public House. This event was not catered. 3. Those that gathered were responsible for their meals and personal gratuities." Additionally, Semi Bird also noted in the initial response on behalf of his campaign that: "There were no services rendered, costs incurred, o[r] fees paid. Ladies for Liberty, a social group, as we understand it,

offered to host a meet and greet event for my campaign and we accepted. We did receive contributions at that event and ever[y] single one was immediately reported in accordance with PDC guidelines. My campaign has received in-kind donations before and after the event and never had a problem with disclosing them. I would assert that it is our campaign's best interest to disclose campaign in-kind contributions, so there is neither motive nor precedent to support this allegation."

- Staff noted that the contribution(s) received at the meet and greet event hosted by the Ladies of Liberty Tri-Cities for the Semi Bird campaign, was disclosed by the campaign on C-3 reports filed by the campaign. The contribution(s) received at the May 10, 2023, event was deposited by the campaign on May 11, 2023, and filed with the PDC on June 12, 2023. However, staff also noted that two pledges received at the same event on May 10, 2023, were not reported by the Campaign until August 30, 2023, approximately 79 days late.

Based on these findings staff has determined that, in this instance, the Campaign's failure to timely disclose pledges on the statutory May 2023 report, is not a violation that warrants further investigation.

However, pursuant to WAC 390-060(1)(d), Semi Bird will receive a formal written warning concerning the failure to timely and accurately report statutory monetary and contribution reports, as required by law. Semi Bird will be informed the Commission will consider the formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws/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, you may contact Erick Agina at (360) 586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov)

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Erick O. Agina, Compliance Officer

s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Frey Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: Misipati Sem Bird

