

**2023 Don Orange Campaign response to the complaint
PDC Case 141220**

(Thu, 28 Sep 2023 at 11:21 AM)

To: "PDC Support" <pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov>

Cc: dorange53@gmail.com

External Email

To Kurt Young:

Kurt, I am attaching the letter PDC has requested in response to the complaint filed by Glen Morgan in a Word file. I am so sorry I did not see the first email and this response is later than I should have returned it. Please let me know if you have any questions or things you think I should address that I haven't.

I will be around if you wish to call me. (360) 241-1222. Thank you so much for your help through this!!

Linda McLain

September 28, 2023

Re: PDC – Donald Orange: Alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.430 by using campaign funds to attend a political party committee fundraiser in which a portion of the funds used resulted in a contribution to the committee.

We would like to respond to the allegations made by Mr. Glen Morgan. We acknowledge that the Friends of Don Orange campaign did purchase a table at the annual Clark County Democrats' dinner for \$1,250.

This dinner was a great opportunity for the candidate, Don Orange, to get his name out there. Mr. Orange is running for Vancouver Port Commissioner which is a non-partisan race. His values are more in line with the Democratic party and he wanted this chance to campaign with a group who would naturally support him in his race. Mr. Orange also used this as an opportunity to give something to the volunteers who work on his campaign. The tickets were purchased as a thank you to these people.

The Clark County Democrats do acknowledge their table sponsors in their dinner program and Don Orange was named as a table sponsor. He also was able to bring yard signs and remit envelopes to display on side tables. They do not share their email lists or access to their social media accounts. Besides the table ticket for the dinner, no monies were given to any event after the actual dinner.

We have contacted the Clark County Democrats to get an accounting of the actual dinner costs. In the past it has been a practice of the party to keep ticket prices as low as possible, keeping the prices lower so more party volunteers can afford to attend. Marsha Manning, a past manager of this dinner, shared with me the way ticket prices were determined.

At the end of each dinner, costs are calculated against income to determine what the price for the tickets would be the next year. For 2023 the Clark County Democrats estimated that the cost of \$125 (which they set as the ticket price) or \$1,250 for a table of ten, which would cover the cost of a reserved seat, the dinner, dessert and wine. This was an estimate, but the actual income made on each ticket this year was \$11.26 or \$112.63 per table.

Please see a copy of an email I received from the chair of the dinner held this year which includes an accounting of the income for the dinner. It is on the last page of this document.

I have been a campaign treasurer for many years. In my prior contacts about this with PDC, which I admit has been a few years, I was told that as long as it was a campaign event for the candidate, the table members were either donors or volunteers the campaign wanted to thank, and the cost of the ticket was reasonable for the fair market value of the dinner and wine received for the ticket, then it would be an allowed campaign expense.

The Friends of Don Orange campaign has been careful in following PDC guidelines and filing timely and complete reports. The candidate purchased these tickets for his volunteers on the advice of his treasurer. We believed we were complying with PDC guidelines but understand that this is something that can be misinterpreted by the public and we will no longer spend campaign funds in this way, paying directly to a political party, even if the payment is not a contribution.

In this case the Clark County Democrats have agreed to refund Friends of Don Orange the \$112.63. Once we receive that check we will amend all reports to reflect this transaction.

Sincerely,

Linda McLain
Campaign Treasurer
Friends of Don Orange

Hi Linda,

Below is the breakdown of table sales revenue and expenses to support that revenue for the 2023 Ogden Dinner.

Sincerely,

Holly Williams
Ogden Dinner Chair

\$125	Price per seat
340	Seats sold
\$42,500	Total Table sales
	Less
\$38,670.67	Total event expenses
\$3,829	Table sales profit
\$11.26	Profit per seat
\$112.63	Profit per table
Note: A table had 10 seats	