



**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

July 15, 2024

Delivered electronically to "sam_wirsching@comcast.net"

Subject: PDC Case 141820

Dear Sam Wirsching:

Enclosed is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Glen Morgan concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the enclosed letter to Glen Morgan, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter.

However, pursuant to WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), this letter serves as a formal warning concerning your failure to timely file a candidate registration, contribution and expenditure reports, and the Personal Financial Affairs Statement as noted in the enclosed letter sent to Mr. Morgan. Staff expects you to timely file all future required reports associated with being a candidate for public office under the PDC's jurisdiction. The Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

If you have questions, you may contact Phil Stutzman at 360-664-8853, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,
Electronically Signed Philip E. Stutzman
Phil Stutzman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,
Electronically Signed Peter Frey Lavallee
Peter Frey Lavallee
Executive Director



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July 15, 2024

Delivered electronically to "glen@wethegoverned.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Sam Wirsching, PDC Case 141820

Dear Glen Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on August 27, 2023. Your complaint alleged that Sam Wirsching, a 2019 candidate for Snohomish County Fire Commissioner, may have violated RCW 42.17A.205 by failing to file a Candidate Registration (C-1); 42.17A.235 and .240 by failing to file reports of contributions and expenditures on C-3 and C-4 reports; and 42.17A.700 by failing to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1).

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided on behalf of Sam Wirsching; the applicable PDC reports filed by Respondent; 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:

- Sam Wirsching was a 2019 candidate for Snohomish County Fire District 7 Commissioner, Position 4, who lost in the August 6 Primary election. Mr. Wirsching has not been a candidate before or after his 2019 candidacy.
- Eric Halvorson, Northshore Tax, Accounting, and Compliance Services responded on behalf of Mr. Wirsching. Mr. Halvorson provided factual information about what was raised and spent, including an invoice for the one campaign expenditure. He acknowledged the missing reports, noting that Mr. Wirsching was likely unaware of his filing requirements.
- On November 29, 2023, PDC staff held an Initial Hearing (Case Status Review), which opened a formal investigation into the allegations. Mr. Halvorson participated in the Initial Hearing on behalf of Mr. Wirsching.
- PDC staff did not conduct enforcement for 2019 candidates or otherwise notify Mr. Wirsching of his filing requirements and missing reports at the time the reports were due.
- Mr. Wirsching received one contribution of \$950 on or about August 5, 2019 from IAFF Local 2781 PAC and contributed \$155.03 of his own money to pay Capitol City Press \$1,105.03 for 100 yard signs, one 48 x 24 sign, and four 96 x 48 signs.

- Upon receipt of the complaint, PDC staff began working with Mr. Halvorson to file the missing reports on behalf of Mr. Wirsching. The candidate registration was filed June 6, 2024, the contribution and expenditure reports were filed June 12, 2024, and the Personal Financial Affairs Statement was filed June 20, 2024.

Based on these findings, staff has determined that in this instance, the failure to timely file a candidate registration, contribution and expenditure reports, and the Personal Financial Affairs Statement does not amount to a violation warranting further investigation.

However, pursuant to WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), Sam Wirsching will receive a formal written warning concerning his failure to file a candidate registration, contribution and expenditure reports, and the Personal Financial Affairs Statement. The formal written warning will include staff's expectation that Sam Wirsching timely file all future required reports associated with being a candidate for public office under the PDC's jurisdiction. The Commission will consider the formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or 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 Phil Stutzman at 360-664-8853, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,
Electronically Signed Philip E. Stutzman
Phil Stutzman
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,
Electronically Signed Peter Frey Lavalley
Peter Frey Lavalley
Executive Director

cc: Sam Wirsching and Eric Halvorson