

Respondent Name
Albert Merkel
Complainant Name
Nancy "Pete" Miller
Complaint Description
<p>O4petesake reported via the portal (Sun, 11 Feb 2024 at 11:22 AM)</p> <p>The PDC has maintained the philosophy that the flow of money must be consistent and accurate. I am concerned that Mr. Merkel has not been forthcoming in his reporting resulting in doubts to the accuracy and honesty of his reporting of revenue and expenses during his several runs for office. After reviewing his records online, there are questions as to the validity of his reporting with the understanding of the strict guidelines that the PDC requires of all filers.</p>
What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?
<p>State campaign finance laws are intended to provide maximum transparency to the public and voters so they may know who is funding political campaigns and how those campaigns spend their money.</p>
List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found
<p>Mr. Al Merkel who ran for Spokane Valley City Council in 2017, 2019, 2021 and 2023. In 2023 he won a seat on the city council.</p> <p>2017, Mr. Merkel did not win his bid, but he was under the obligation to file accurate reports.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> There isn't any 7 Day Pre-Primary Report. There isn't any Post-Primary Report where he should have closed the campaign since he didn't win in the primary. There is a negative balance remaining of \$4,986.00 which is important later. The campaign was not closed out. <p>2019, Mr. Merkel did not win his bid for a council seat.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> No carryover of the negative balance from 2017. No C4's were filed. No 21 Day Pre-Primary was filed. No 7 Day Pre-Primary was filed. No Post Primary was filed whereby he should have closed his campaign since he did not win the primary. Receipts totaled \$610.76 which should have reduced the 2017 negative balance of \$4,986 should he carryover the negative balance which he did not. There were 7 C3's filed. The first 5 are identical. The last two are similarly identical. The campaign was not closed out. <p>2021, Mr. Merkel did not win his bid for a council seat.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> No carryover from 2017 with the negative balance and no adjustments to the balance from the receipts in 2019. No C3's were filed No C4's were filed No 21 Day Pre-Primary Report filed. No 7 Day Pre-Primary Report filed. No Post Primary Report filed which should have been where he closed his campaign account since he did not win the primary. Again, the campaign was left open.

2023, Mr. Merkel did win his seat on the city council.

1. No carryover from the 2017 of the remaining negative balance
2. No adjustment to the 2017 negative balance from the 2019 receipts.
3. No 21 Day Pre-Primary Report filed.
4. No 7 Day Pre-Primary Report filed.
5. No Post Primary Report filed.
6. No Post General Report filed.
7. Campaign was left open.

List of potential witnesses

None -

Certification (Complainant)

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.