

**WASHINGTON 18TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS CENTRAL COMMITTEE
PO BOX 1175
Vancouver, WA 98666**

April 16, 2024

Alice Fiman, Case Manager
Washington State Public Disclosure Commission
PO Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504-0908

RE: REPLY TO COMPLAINT 149477 Dated February 26, 2024

Dear Ms. Fiman,

I am the treasurer of the Washington 18th Legislative District Democrats. I apologize for the honest misunderstandings that led to the situation causing the filing of this complaint and assure the commission that every step will be taken to correct matters to preserve the integrity of political committee financial reporting. Simply stated there was a misunderstanding between me and the previous treasurer. It was my understanding that she closed out 2022 and set us up for ongoing Mini Reporting because we do not raise nor spend a lot of money.

I am not a professional. I am a volunteer. Our group is small and inexperienced. As a small group of inexperienced volunteers just trying to better our community we ask for your assistance to correct this situation that we may learn from the experience. We are all people of high integrity and would never do anything intentionally wrong or misleading. We ask for your forbearance and assistance to set matters straight.

Specific to replying to Mr. Morgan's complaint of February 26, 2024, first I will address the matter of the grant received from Washington State Democrats in the Fall of 2023 that the WSDCC reported timely to the PDC. The grant was for Democratic Party Building and Rural Outreach. In 2023, Washington 18th Legislative District Democrats Central Committee did not give to nor spend in support of any candidates nor other political organizations these nor any other funds. Furthermore, in 2023, the 18th LD Democrats total annual contributions and individual and total expenses were under the threshold for Mini Reporting. Although, I now understand that the \$2,000 grant given by the Washington State Democrats in the Fall of 2023 changed our qualifying for a Mini Reporting for that year. I will enter into the PDC reporting system all the donations and expenses for 2023 by May 1, 2024.

Washington 18th Legislative District Democrats Central Committee
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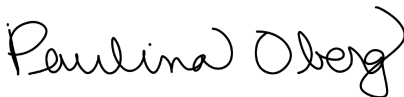
Both in 2023 and year to date 2024, 18th LD Democrats other donations were modest from individuals and funds were only spent on expenses such as Zoom, Domain Registration, Web Hosting, PO Box Rental, etc. and 18th LD Democrats small modest events that were social, community information, or PCO/Volunteer general training in nature. No funds were given to or spent on candidates or given to other political organizations. The Washington State Democrats Fall 2023 grant to the 18th LD Democrats was reported by WSDCC to the WA PDC in 2023 and that is how Mr. Morgan came to be aware of it. Thus, the public was made aware and the spirit of Washington State's political disclosure laws were not subverted. Before receiving the WSDCC grant we qualified for Mini Reporting.

Further, Mr. Morgan writes in his complaint that this is a repeated pattern. In response to that assertion I answer that our little group of volunteers has changed executive officers many times over the years. The only pattern is of neophyte volunteers doing their best to operate our group in compliance with state laws. I regret any mistakes in our reporting and we will do our best to improve our processes in the future.

Our plan is to correct this situation expeditiously. I will enter all the missing contributions and expenses entries into the WA PDC reporting system and submit the missing reports. I hope this will completely rectify the situation. Certainly, we are appreciative of Mr. Morgan brining this matter to our attention as we want to be in compliance and fully support the PDC's work on behalf of the people of Washington State.

Thank you for your support in addressing this situation and your work on the behalf of the people of Washington State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paulina Oberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paulina" and last name "Oberg" clearly distinguishable.

Paulina Oberg, Treasurer
18th LD Democrats
treasurer@18thdems.org