



**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](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)

December 1, 2017

Delivered electronically to "vision.murr7@gmail.com"

Subject: PDC Case 27142

Dear James Murr:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Mark Carney concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted below to Mark Carney, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of clearly stating non-incumbent status in political advertising. PDC Staff expects you to abide by all laws and rules governing political advertising in the future.

If you have questions, you may contact Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [fox.blackhorn@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:fox.blackhorn@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Fox Blackhorn  
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

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

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December 1, 2017

Delivered electronically to "mark.car.wa@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding James Murr, PDC Case 27142

Dear Mark Carney:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its initial review of the complaint you filed on November 3, 2017. Your complaint alleged that James Murr may have violated RCW 42.17A.335 and WAC 390-18-040 for use of the term re-elect on yard signs without clearly stating that they are not the incumbent.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, and as a result of staff's initial review, we found the following:

- James Murr's yard signs should have clearly indicated that they were not the incumbent in the 2017 election cycle when using the term re-elect, in violation of WAC 390-18-040.
- While James Murr was seeking election for a different position on City Council than was previously held, use of the term re-elect is not, in this instance, does not meet the standard of RCW 42.17A.335 for libel per se.

Based on these initial findings, staff has determined that in this instance, use of the term re-elect on James Murr's yard signs does not amount to a material violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding James Murr about the importance of clearly stating non-incumbent status in political advertising. PDC Staff expects James Murr to abide by all laws and rules governing political advertising in the future.

The PDC has closed the matter, and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into your complaint or pursuing further enforcement action in this case.

If you have questions, you may contact Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [fox.blackhorn@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:fox.blackhorn@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Fox Blackhorn  
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Lavallee  
Executive Director

cc: James Murr