

FOR ALL OF WASHINGTON

July 11, 2024

Public Disclosure Commission Alice Fiman, Compliance Officer

Re: Bird for Governor, Response to Case Number 155941

Dear Alice Fiman, Compliance

We have sleuthed out the facts concerning the elements of the PDC Case # 155941:

First, both shirts in the subject complaint photos, were bought last year (2023) before it was discovered and pointed out by Complaint # 152546 that the Bird for Governor merchandise did not have the necessary party affiliation "R" in the logo used on the shirts. Again, these shirts were sold in 2023 under a previous campaign manager using a different shirt vendor. Starting in 2024 a new vendor was retained by the current campaign manager and the required "R" is on all merchandise sold on our website. (see birdforgovernor.com) The April 19, 2024, disposition for Complaint #152546 "Resolved by a Statement of Understanding and a \$300 fine".

The red polo shirt in this subject complaint photo is not for sale in 2024 on the campaign website. Since the logo re-configuration took place earlier this year under the new campaign management. The candidate had the subject polo shirt in his closet and did not realize it was missing the required "R". He has been advised not to wear year-old shirts for a campaign appearance in the future.

If the serial complainant ever attended a Bird for Governor campaign rally or appearance, he would know the candidate proudly declares he is a "...proud Republic" in all his campaign stops, appearances and presentations. There is no attempt by the candidate or the campaign "...to be hiding his party affiliation..." as accused in this recent complaint. Any reasonable review of the campaign website, Facebook, political advertising, mailing, appearances and text clearly and proudly disclose his preferred party is Republican.

Second, picture 2 on X was not posted by the campaign and the campaign does not know the individual who posted the picture. The shirt worn in the subject X, formerly twitter, picture was clearly purchased last year before the logo was updated to comply with the party affiliation requirement.

I might suggest that the specific elements in this complaint are a duplication of the resolved April complaint #15246. Therefore, the elements of this complaint were addressed and resolved by a "Statement of Understanding" dated April 18, 2024 and a fine of \$300 was paid.

Be assured there is no attempt by the candidate or the Bird for Governor campaign to hide the party affiliation or to be in non-compliance with political advertising RCW 42.56 requirements. We concur the public has the right to know candidate Semi Bird is a proud Republican running for governor. The candidate nor the campaign does not control the post to X, formerly twitter, postings.

Sincerely submitted
Russ Vandersnick, Campaign Manager
Bird for Governor