



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

April 9, 2019

Delivered electronically to "karen@steebenergy.com"

Subject: Complaint filed by Greg Fazzio, PDC Case 26308

Dear Karen Steeb:

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

As noted in the letter to Greg Fazzio, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

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

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Fox Blackhorn  
Compliance Coordinator 2

Endorsed by,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavallee  
Executive Director



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April 9, 2019

Delivered electronically to “gregfazzio@gmail.com”

Subject: Complaint regarding Karen Steeb, PDC Case 26308

Dear Greg Fazzio:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on October 2, 2017. The complaint alleged that Kareen Steeb, a 2017 candidate for Woodinville Water District, may have violated RCW 42.17A.335 for publishing false and defamatory statements with actual malice about Greg Fazzio on the candidate’s website, and RCW 42.17A.555 for misusing public facilities to oppose the candidacy of Greg Fazzio.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; and the response provided by Karen Steeb, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff’s review, we found the following:

- The complaint alleges that a statement made by Karen Steeb was false, namely that you were not a customer of the Woodinville Water District, and speculates that the statement was the result of misuse of public facilities, without providing evidence to substantiate the claim.
- The response provided by Karen Steeb shows multiple avenues using publicly available information to determine that you had a well rather than public water provided by Woodinville Water District, and your complaint confirms that your residence had a well rather than public water through the Woodinville Water District.
- Insufficient evidence has been provided to support the allegation that Karen Steeb’s comments were defamatory in nature, nor that they were made with actual malice as defined by RCW 42.17A.005(1) as to, “*act with knowledge of falsity or with reckless disregard to truth or falsity.*”
- No evidence has been provided to support the allegation that public facilities were misused in any way.
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Based on these findings staff has determined that, in this instance, insufficient evidence supports a finding of an actual violation warranting further investigation.

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 Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [pdcc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Fox Blackhorn  
Compliance Coordinator 2

Endorsed by,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director

cc: Karen Steeb