

Respondent Name
Erica Tomas
Complainant Name
James Taylor
Complaint Description
James Taylor reported via the portal (Mon, 29 Sep 2025 at 7:38 AM) Candidate Erica Tomas (Auburn City Council, Pos. 4) appears to be out of compliance with campaign finance rules. She has not filed the required August C-4 under RCW 42.17A.235. Her Facebook campaign page and posts lack the required sponsor identification ("Paid for by..."), in violation of RCW 42.17A.320/WAC 390-18-010. She is accepting contributions through Anedot but has not reported any Anedot processing fees as expenditures, which is required under RCW 42.17A.240.
What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?
These violations directly undermine the public's right to transparency in elections. When required C-4 reports are missing, voters cannot see how a campaign is raising and spending money during critical periods of the election cycle. When sponsor disclaimers are omitted from social media pages and advertising, the public cannot tell who is funding and authorizing the campaign's communications. And when routine costs such as Anedot processing fees or obvious event expenses are not reported, it creates an incomplete and misleading picture of a candidate's financial activity. Collectively, these gaps hinder voters' ability to make fully informed decisions and erode confidence in the fairness of the election process.
List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61577508794457 https://www.instagram.com/erica.for.auburn/ • Exhibit A: Screenshots of campaign Facebook and Instagram pages "Intro" section, "About" section and "Page transparency" section – no sponsor disclosure. • Exhibit B: Screenshots of September 11 and September 19, 2025 Facebook event posts plus the Facebook campaign event page – campaign flyer, posts or descriptions missing "Paid for by" statement. September 28, 2025 Instagram video ad. • Exhibit C: Screenshot of PDC expenditure reports showing last reported activity on July 28, 2025
List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them
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.

Candidate: Erica Tomas – Auburn City Council, Position 4

Nature of Complaint

This complaint concerns multiple apparent violations of Washington’s campaign finance laws (RCW 42.17A) by the campaign of **Erica Tomas**, who is seeking election to Auburn City Council, Position 4.

1. Failure to File August C-4 Report

- The Tomas campaign last reported expenditures on **July 28, 2025**.
- No **C-4 report covering the period July 29 – August 31, 2025** appears in the PDC system, despite the required filing deadline.
- Even if no expenditures occurred, a “no activity” C-4 was required.
- This omission leaves the public without financial transparency for the month of August.

2. Missing Sponsor Identification on Campaign Facebook & Instagram Pages (*Exhibit A*)

- The campaign’s official Facebook page, “*Erica Tomas for Auburn City Council*,” includes contact details, links to her website and donation page, but does **not state who is responsible for the page or include a “Paid for by...” sponsor/treasurer disclosure**.
- Under **RCW 42.17A.320**, a campaign’s social media page is considered political advertising and must contain sponsor identification.
- The absence of sponsor attribution is non-compliant with PDC requirements.

3. Missing Sponsor Identification on Campaign Posts and Advertising (*Exhibit B*)

- On **September 19, 2025**, the Tomas campaign on Facebook and Instagram posted an event promotion for a “Meet Your Candidate” gathering at Les Gove Park, including a campaign graphic with her name, office sought, and call to action.

- Neither the post text nor the graphic contains the required **“Paid for by...” disclosure**.
- On **September 28, 2025**, the Tomas campaign posted a two-minute video on Instagram introducing herself as a candidate for Auburn City Council. The video and accompanying caption contain **no sponsor identification or “Paid for by...” disclosure**.
- These posts constitute political advertising without sponsor identification, in violation of **RCW 42.17A.320** and **WAC 390-18-010 / WAC 390-18-030**.

4. Omission of Anedot Processing Fees

- The campaign solicits contributions through **Anedot** (secure.anedot.com/erica-for-auburn/campaign-fund), as listed on her Facebook page.
- However, no **Anedot processing fees** are disclosed in her C-4 filings.
- These fees are standard expenditures deducted from contributions and are required to be reported under RCW 42.17A.235.
- The absence of these expenditures indicates incomplete or inaccurate reporting.

Why This Matters

Transparency in campaign finance is essential to public trust. The issues outlined above: a missing monthly C-4, repeated lack of sponsor disclaimers, unreported Anedot processing fees, and discrepancies between campaign activity and reported expenditures, prevent voters from having a clear and accurate picture of this campaign’s finances.

Requested Action

I respectfully request that the PDC review these matters to determine whether the Tomas campaign is in violation of RCW 42.17A and applicable WAC rules, and take any enforcement action deemed appropriate.

I submit this complaint in good faith to promote accountability and ensure that all candidates comply with Washington’s disclosure laws.

Exhibits

- **Exhibit A:** Screenshots of campaign Facebook and Instagram pages “Intro” section, “About” section and “Page transparency” section – no sponsor/treasurer disclosure.
- **Exhibit B:** Screenshots of September 11 & September 19, 2025 Facebook event posts plus the Facebook campaign event page – campaign flyer, posts or descriptions missing “Paid for by” statement. Screenshot of September 28 Instagram post missing “Paid for by” statement.
- **Exhibit C:** Screenshot of PDC expenditure reports showing last reported activity on July 28, 2025

Exhibit A



Erica Tomas for Auburn

22 followers • 11 following

[Posts](#) [About](#) [Mentions](#) [Reviews](#) [Followers](#) [Photos](#)

Intro

Erica is a state employee, a union shop steward, new mom, and active community member who wants to build a community that doesn't just meet our needs today but plans for our needs tomorrow.

 **Page** · Political Candidate

 PO Box 751, Auburn, WA, United States, Washington

 ericatomas4office@gmail.com

 [instagram.com/erica.for.auburn](https://www.instagram.com/erica.for.auburn)

 ericaforauburn.com

 secure.anedot.com/erica-for-auburn/campaign-fund

 Not yet rated (0 Reviews) 

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61577508794457&sk=about

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🗒️

👤

+2

PostsAboutMentionsReviewsFollowersPhotosMore ▾

About

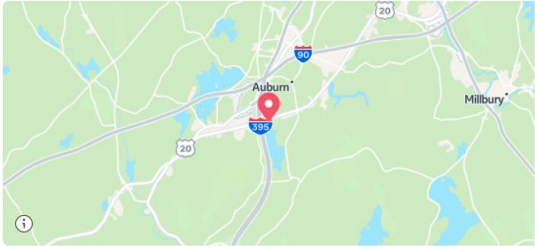
Contact and basic info

Page transparency

Categories

🏠 Political Candidate

Contact info



🏠 PO Box 751, Auburn, WA, United States, 98071
Address

✉️ ericatomas4office@gmail.com
Email

Websites and social links

<https://secure.anedot.com/erica-for-auburn/campaign-fund>
<https://www.ericaforauburn.com/>

[instagram.com/erica.for.auburn](https://www.instagram.com/erica.for.auburn)

Basic info

★ Not yet rated (0 Reviews)

👤 Female
Gender



erica.for.auburn

Follow



20 posts

70 followers

103 following

Erica Tomas for Auburn City Council

I am a public employee, a union member and leader, a parent, a data nerd, and I am running for Auburn City Council.

All opinions are my own.

🔗 ericaforauburn.com and 2 more



✓ ENDORSED!



**ERICA
FOR AUBURN**

CITY COUNCIL, POSITION 4



✓ ENDORSED!



**ERICA
FOR AUBURN**

CITY COUNCIL, POSITION 4

**Erica Tomas
for Auburn**

Come out and meet your city council candidate!

**Saturday,
September 20
1-3pm
Les Gove Park**

- food and drinks
- family-friendly space
- meet Erica and learn her priorities
- share your dreams for Auburn



15



Erica Tomas for Auburn City Council

22 followers • 11 following

Message

Follow

Search

Posts **About** Mentions Reviews Followers Photos More ▾



About

Contact and basic info

Page transparency

Page transparency

Facebook is showing information to help you understand the purpose of this Page.

🚩 677453278786331
Page ID

🕒 June 27
Creation date

👤 Admin info
This Page doesn't have any other admins. Additional admins may have permission to post content, comment or send messages as the Page.

💻 This Page is not currently running ads.

See all

Exhibit B

Erica Tomas for Auburn

Come out and meet your city council candidate!

**Saturday,
September 20
1-3pm
Les Gove Park**

- food and drinks
- family-friendly space
- meet Erica and learn her priorities
- share your dreams for Auburn



 Erica Tomas for Auburn City Council ...
September 11 at 8:27 PM · 🌐





No comments yet
Be the first to comment.

 Erica Tomas for Auburn City Council ...
September 19 at 6:06 PM · 🌐

Tomorrow is supposed to be gorgeous - come join me at Les Gove Park to talk about Auburn - what we love, what we want to see in the future, and what we can be doing now to keep this a great place to live.

Erica Tomas for Auburn

Come out and meet your city council candidate!

**Saturday,
September 20
1-3pm
Les Gove Park**

- food and drinks
- family-friendly space
- meet Erica and learn her priorities
- share your dreams for Auburn



Sat, Sep 20

Meet Your Candidate with Erica Tomas

Les Gove Park, 910 9th St SE, Auburn, WA

Cheryl was interested

 Interested

for Auburn

Come out and meet your city council candidate!

**Saturday,
September 20
1-3pm
Les Gove Park**

- food and drinks
- family-friendly space



20

Saturday, September 20, 2025 at 1 PM – 3 PM

Meet Your Candidate with Erica Tomas

Les Gove Park, 910 9th St SE, Auburn, WA

About

Discussion

...

Details

4 people responded



Event by Erica Tomas for Auburn City Council

Les Gove Park, 910 9th St SE, Auburn, WA

Duration: 2 hr

Public · Anyone on or off Facebook

The general election is only 2 months away - have you had a chance to learn about your candidates for Auburn City Council?

Come meet Erica for a casual afternoon at the Les Gove Park picnic shelter to share food and drinks, enjoy the playground and park, and learn about why Erica is running for city council.

See less

Auburn, Washington





erica.for.auburn • Follow



Original audio



erica.for.auburn If we haven't yet met, my name is Erica Tomas and i'm running for Auburn City Council. Please come find me and say "Hi!" if you catch me at one of our parks or community spaces!

18h



14 likes

18 hours ago



Add a comment...

Post

Exhibit C

Erica Marie Tomas (Erica Tomas)

Candidate for CITY COUNCIL MEMBER for CITY OF AUBURN * in the 2025 election.

- Overview
- Contributions
- Expenditures
- Pledges
- Debts
- Loans
- Independent Expenditures

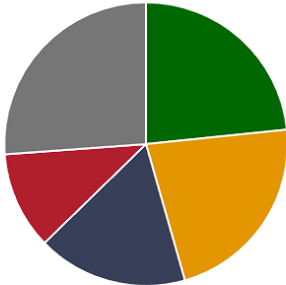
Itemized Expenditures

\$10,696.37

Shown below are the campaign’s expenditures. Small expenses may be grouped together and reported as one sum. Donated goods and services (known as in-kind contributions) also appear here as expenditures, with the contributor listed in the recipient column.

Expenditures by Expense Type

- Management and consulting services
\$2,499.66
- Printing literature, fliers,...
\$2,374.77
- Postage costs, mail permits,...
\$1,833.41
- Design/graphic art, etc.
\$1,190.78
- Miscellaneous
\$2,797.75



Results for: **No selected filters.** Hide Filters Search Tips

Recipient Name
 X

Description
 X

Date
From To X

Recipient City
 X

Recipient State
 X

Amount
From To X

Show 50 entries

[Download 18 rows as CSV.](#)

Recipient	Date	Description	Recipient City	Recipient State	Amount	Report
Overton Political Solutions	07/28/2025	Political consulting	Tacoma	WA	\$833.33	View Report
Overton Political Solutions	07/28/2025	Design services	Tacoma	WA	\$865.03	View Report
Overton Political Solutions	07/28/2025	Capitol City Press - Mailer (5.3k)	Tacoma	WA	\$2,062.09	View Report
Overton Political Solutions	07/28/2025	Capitol City Press - Mailer postage (5.3k)	Tacoma	WA	\$1,833.41	View Report

