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OCT 21 2011

Public Disclosure Commission

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State of Washington  
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Olympia, WA 98504-0100

Linda A. Dalton  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Government Compliance & Enforcement Division  
Office of the Attorney General  
Post Office Box 40100  
Olympia, WA 98504-0100

Daniel Satterberg  
King County Prosecuting Attorney  
King County Courthouse, Room W554  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104-2362

Dear Attorney General McKenna, Ms. Dalton and Prosecutor Satterberg:

This letter is to notify you of my request to commence a civil action pursuant to RCW 42.17.400 in the name of the State of Washington against Move Bellevue Forward for multiple violations of the Public Disclosure Act, including the provisions of RCW 42.17.120, in actions preceding the 2011 General Election.

Besides the significant violation of RCW 42.17.120 which reads:

***“No contribution shall be made and no expenditure shall be incurred, directly or indirectly, in a fictitious name, anonymously, or by one person through an agent, relative, or other person in such a manner as to conceal the identity of the source of the contribution or in any other manner so as to effect concealment.”***

The Move Bellevue Forward organization published a campaign mailer that supports three candidates for public office and opposes a statewide initiative mailer without an apparent understanding that such an activity would even require disclosure of campaign activities in direct violation of the intent, spirit and law that surrounds the Public Disclosure Act.

In a quote made by the President of the Move Bellevue Forward organization to the Seattle Times:

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***“Move Bellevue Forward President Sue Baugh said she has been advised the mailing doesn't have to be reported to the PDC, but said she is prepared to submit forms if they are required.”***  
(Seattle Times, 10/19/2011)

For an individual with a Board that includes a partner, and/or part owner, in a Seattle-based public affairs firm, this is an amazing comment that only hints at the organization's disregard for the public's right to know about activities aimed solely at influencing public opinion in advance of a major contested election.

By the terms of the Public Disclosure Commission's mission statement:

***“The Public Disclosure Commission was created and empowered by Initiative of the People to provide timely and meaningful public access to accurate information about the financing of political campaigns, lobbyist expenditures, and the financial affairs of public officials and candidates, and to ensure compliance with and equitable enforcement of Washington's disclosure and campaign finance laws.”***

Washington State citizens have the right to know the source of contributions and the expenditures being made to influence the direction of their vote.

Move Bellevue Forward – which is barely a Bellevue organization since three of its five Board Members are based in Seattle – engaged activity with the obvious intent to hide both the source and driving force beyond this specific mailer and potentially many beyond.

As a result of its actions, the very motives and intents of the organization must be investigated and questioned. These include:

1. The true source and size of the contributions that paid for the mailer and the individuals who initiated it, printed it and distributed it to the public.
2. The reason and rationale for the failure to include the legally required disclaimer on all political mail, including independent expenditure mail.
3. The source of the “supposed” understanding by Ms. Baugh that an obviously political communication did not require public disclosure.
4. An investigation into the possibility that the mailing in question was, in fact, not an independent expenditure, but the result of coordination between the candidates named and the organization whose purpose they publicly support.
5. An investigation to identify that exact amounts truly spent on this mailing and any others yet to come.

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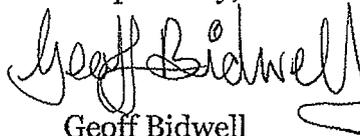
By its very actions and words, Move Bellevue Forward brings to the forefront each of these points, and only through a full investigation backed by the power of subpoena and the ability to place potential witnesses under the penalty of perjury can the public ever truly know the full nature of the attempted conspiracy to violate one of the most sacred tenets of Washington State election law.

The clear purpose of the actions of Move Bellevue Forward was to conceal the identity of the contributions for political activities (by the failure to list the legally required disclaimer, including the top five contributors), to conceal the true source of a politically charged mailing, and to conceal the true intent of the organization behind it.

Each is a violation of Washington State law that – correctly – carries with it a potentially heavy penalty.

I look forward for the public's right to know being fully realized in this example of heinous and sordid actions by an organization attempting to subvert multiple laws and administrative policies.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Geoff Bidwell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Geoff Bidwell

Enclosures