



STATE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

Adam Renn
Attn: James Oswald, on behalf of Adam Renn
18 West Mercer Street, Suite #400
Seattle, WA 98119

In Re Compliance with RCW 42.17.

Adam Renn

Respondent.

PDC Case No. 13-033

Findings of Fact,
Conclusions of Law, and
Order Imposing Fine

A brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) was held August 1, 2013, in Room 206, Evergreen Plaza Building, 711 Capitol Way, Olympia, Washington to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17.130 by using facilities of the City of SeaTac to assist the 2009 campaigns of candidates for SeaTac City Council and 2010 campaigns of candidates for the State Legislature.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. A brief enforcement hearing notice concerning the administrative charges was sent to the Respondent through his legal counsel, James Oswald, on June 17, 2013, for a Brief Enforcement Hearing scheduled for June 27, 2013. On June 27, 2013, the Presiding Officer continued the hearing to August 1, 2013. Commission Chair Amit Ranade was the Presiding Officer. The Commission staff was represented by Kurt Young, Compliance Officer. The Respondent submitted a written statement, and he was represented by James Oswald, legal counsel who spoke at the hearing.

Having considered the evidence, the Presiding Officer finds as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent is a firefighter for the City of SeaTac Fire Department and the Political Leader of the SeaTac local firefighters union (IAFF Local 2919).
2. In 2009, three SeaTac City Council positions were up for election. Six candidates filed for the three positions: Jonathan Standridge and Rich Forschler for position 2; Tony Anderson and Michael Kovacs for position 4; and Barry Ladenburg and Pamela Fernald for position 6. In 2010, three incumbent State Legislators in the 33rd Legislative District were up for re-election: Senator Karen Keiser, Representative Tina Orwell, and Representative Dave Upthegrove.

3. On May 22 and May 23, 2010, the Respondent used his City of SeaTac email account to reply to John Gallup concerning upcoming campaign kick-off events for the three incumbent democratic legislators from the 33rd legislative district.
4. By letter, the Respondent stated that he was a “newcomer to the political process” during the 2009 and 2010 elections. He acknowledged making “some unintentional mistakes.” He stated that as a City of Sea-Tac firefighter, he worked a “fairly erratic schedule with 24 hour shifts” which left him with no way to access his personal email while he was on duty. He stated that whenever possible, he attempted to forward personal emails to his personal email address. The Respondent stated that he will not repeat these mistakes in the future.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above facts, as a matter of law, the Presiding Officer concludes as follows:

1. This matter was duly and properly convened and all jurisdictional, substantive and procedural requirements have been satisfied.
2. The Respondent violated RCW 42.17.130 on one occasion by using the facilities of the City of SeaTac to send emails that assisted the 2010 election campaigns of three legislative candidates.

ORDER

ON the basis of the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law,

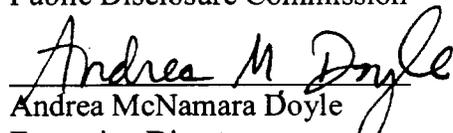
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of \$50, of which the entire \$50 is suspended on the condition that the Respondent is not found to have committed any further violations of RCW 42.17A¹ within two years of the date of this order

If Respondent fails to comply with any of these conditions, the suspended portion of the penalty will become immediately due and payable without further action by the Commission.

This is an **Initial Order** of the Public Disclosure Commission.

Entered this 16th day of August, 2013.

Public Disclosure Commission


Andrea McNamara Doyle
Executive Director

¹ Chapter 42.17 RCW was recodified to Chapter 42.17A RCW effective January 2012, and RCW 42.17.130 was recodified to RCW 42.17A.555.

Enclosure: Information about Appeal Rights

I, Jacob Berkey, certify that I mailed a copy of this order to the
Respondent(s) at his/her/its respective address, postage pre-paid, on the date stated herein.

Signed



Date

8/16/2013