



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 • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

November 6, 2018

Sent electronically to Representative Steve Hobbs at steve@electhobbs.com

Subject: Steve Hobbs Complaint Return Letter, PDC Case No. 30948

Mr. Hobbs:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter sent to Glen Morgan concerning a complaint he filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) on February 8, 2018. The complaint alleged that your 2016 State Senate campaign, may have violated RCW 42.17A.430, .490 and WAC 390-16-230, by failing to receive written permission before transferring contributions to campaign for a different office.

As noted in the letter to Mr. Morgan, the PDC has dismissed this complaint in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1), and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter. However, PDC staff is reminding you of the importance of waiting to receive permission from all contributors before transferring funds to a campaign for a different office.

If you have questions, you may contact me at (360) 586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at erick.agina@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

Erick Agina
PDC Compliance Officer

BG Sandahl, Deputy Director for
Peter Lavallee, Executive Director



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November 6, 2018

Sent electronically to Glen Morgan at glen@wethegoverned.com

Subject: Steve Hobbs Complaint Return Letter, PDC Case No. 30948

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on February 8, 2018. The complaint alleged that Steve Hobbs, an incumbent State Senator and a candidate seeking re-election to that office in 2018, may have violated RCW 42.17A.430, .490 and WAC 390-16-230, by failing to receive written permission before transferring contributions to a campaign for a different office.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations and as a result of staff's review, we found the following:

- On January 18, 2011, Steve Hobbs filed a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) declaring his candidacy for State Senator in 2014, selecting the Full Reporting Option and listed himself as the Campaign Treasurer. On February 19, 2016, Mr. Hobbs filed a C-1 report declaring his candidacy for the office of Lieutenant Governor in 2016. Senator Hobbs is an incumbent State Senator since being elected to that office in 2006.

Allegation: Failure to receive written permission before transferring contributions to campaign for a different office.

- The complaint alleged that the campaign failed to receive written permission from all contributors before transferring contributions from the Senate Campaign to the Lieutenant Governor Campaign in 2016. The permissions were required before the two fund transfers were made on March 31, 2016, for \$74,763 and April 10, 2016, for \$72,000.
- Both transfers were made after obtaining permission from most, but not all contributors. Except for a few permissions that were received after the two transfers were made, the permissions were obtained in advance of the two transfers.

While the Campaign failed to wait for permissions from all the contributors, the few permissions that were not received before the April 10, 2016 second transfer, were all requested in advance of the first and second transfers on March 31, 2016 and April 10, 2016 respectively. Additionally, the few permissions that were not received before the April 10, 2016 transfer, all were received shortly thereafter.

Based on these initial findings, staff has determined that in this instance, Steve Hobbs failure to obtain written permission before transferring contribution from his 2014 Senate campaign to his 2016 Lt. Governor campaign does not appear to be an actual material violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is therefore reminding Steve Hobbs about the importance of receiving written permission from all contributors before transferring funds to a different office.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this complaint in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1), and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking enforcement action in this matter.

If you have questions, you may contact me at (360) 586-2869, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at erick.agina@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

Erick Agina
PDC Compliance Officer

BG Sandahl, Deputy Director for
Peter Lavalley, Executive Director

cc: Steve Hobbs

