



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

October 19, 2018

Sent electronically to Kenneth Miller, Committee for Judicial Readiness Treasurer

Subject: PDC Case No. 38335

Dear Mr. Miller:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Nic Van Putten concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC). As noted below in the electronic letter to Mr. Van Putten, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into the allegations listed in the complaint he filed against the Committee for Judicial Readiness (Committee).

You confirmed in an email sent to PDC staff that on October 18, 2018, you completed and mailed a Statement of Understanding (SOU) along with the \$450 penalty payment on behalf of the Committee to the Department of Enterprise Services. In addition, you provided PDC staff with a signed copy of the SOU from the Committee acknowledging violations of RCW 42.17A.235, .240, and .260, that was dated October 18, 2108.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). If you have questions, you may contact me at (360) 586-4560, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Hansen  
Compliance Officer

s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director



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October 19, 2018

Sent electronically to Nic Van Putten at “nhvanputten@gmail.com”

Subject: Complaint regarding the Committee for Judicial Readiness, PDC Case No. 38335

Dear Mr. Van Putten:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on July 23, 2018. The complaint alleged that the Committee for Judicial Readiness, a new single year political committee, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 by failing to timely disclose monetary contribution and expenditure activities on C-3 and C-4 reports. The complaint also alleges that the Respondent may have violated RCW 42.17A.260 by failing to timely report independent expenditures in opposition to John Sheeran, a candidate for Pierce County District Court.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations listed in the complaint, the statutes, rules, and reporting requirements, the C-3, C-4 and C-6 reports filed by the Committee for Judicial Readiness, and the July 31, 2018 response letter from Kenneth Miller, the Committee’s Campaign Treasurer. Based on staff’s review of the pertinent materials, including Mr. Miller’s response to the allegations, we found the following:

- On July 9, 2018, the Committee for Judicial Readiness (Committee) filed a Committee Registration (C-1pc report) as a “New 2018 Single Year Political Committee” formed to support the candidacy of Karl Williams, selecting the Full Reporting option and listing Kenneth Miller as the Treasurer and sole Committee Officer.
- On August 6, 2018, the Committee filed three C-3 reports, one day prior to the 2018 primary election being held disclosing \$9,500 in monetary contributions received during the period July 12 through July 18, 2018. One of the C-3 reports disclosed a \$5,000 loan received by the Committee from Mr. Miller. The contributor information that was disclosed on the C-3 reports was filed by Committee between 14 to 21 days late.
- On August 6, 2018, the Committee filed both the 21-day and 7-day Pre-Primary C-4 reports, disclosing \$9,500 in monetary contributions/loans received, \$5,100 in expenditures made, \$8,775 in outstanding debts and obligations. The Committee’s liabilities included a \$3,775 debt owed to Capitol City Press for a mailer, and the \$5,000 loan owed to Mr. Miller.

- The contribution and expenditure activities undertaken by the Committee and disclosed on the two C-4 report was filed between 6 and 20 days late.
- On August 4, 2018, the Committee filed a C-6 report three days prior to August 7, 2018 primary election, disclosing \$8,551 for expenditures made to Capitol City Press to print and mail 18,000 direct mail pieces in opposition to John Sheeran.
- On August 6, 2018, the Committee filed a second C-6 report, disclosing an additional \$743 expenditure made to Capitol City Press for postage for a mailer in opposition to candidate Sheeran. The \$9,293 in total independent expenditures disclosed on the two C-6 reports was filed between 5 and 15 days late.
- The Committee was a first-time political committee in 2018, although Mr. Miller has been an officer or Treasurer for political committees in the past.

The Committee for Judicial Readiness provided PDC staff with an emailed copy of a completed Statement of Understanding (SOU) indicating the committee had mailed a \$450 civil penalty payment to the Department of Enterprise Services, a Washington State Agency that handles and processes penalty collections for small state agencies. The SOU from the Committee for Judicial Readiness acknowledged violations of RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failing to timely file C-3 and C-4 reports, and RCW 42.17.260 by failing to timely file C-6 reports.

Based on these findings, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). If you have questions, you may contact me at (360) 586-4560, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Endorsed by:

s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Hansen  
Compliance Officer

s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Lavalley  
Executive Director

cc: Committee for Judicial Readiness

