



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 • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

Oct. 25, 2018

Delivered electronically to "crthobaben@gmail.com"

Subject: PDC Case 39227

Dear Mr. Thobaben:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Justin I. Riley concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC). As noted below in the letter to Mr. Riley, the PDC will not be conducting a more formal investigation into these allegations or taking further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of complying with the reporting requirements for a candidate under the Full Reporting option to timely file C-3 and C-4 reports disclosing contributions and expenditures, including in-kind contributions, debts or other obligations, undertaken by your Campaign, in accordance with RCW 42.17A.235 and ,240 for the duration of the 2018 election cycle.

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 Jennifer Hansen at 1-360-586-4560 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s _____

Jennifer Hansen
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s _____

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director



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 • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

October 25, 2018

Delivered electronically to Justin I. Riley at "jiriley06@gmail.com"

Subject: Christopher Thobaben complaint return with reminder PDC Case 39227

Dear Mr. Riley:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on August 4, 2018. Your complaint alleged that Christopher Thobaben, a candidate for State Representative in the 18th Legislative District in 2018, may have violated; (1) RCW 42.17A.235 and RCW 42.17A.240 by failing to timely and accurately file Summary Full Reporting of Contribution and Expenditure Reports (C-4 report) disclosing contribution and expenditure activities, including in-kind contributions, debts or other obligations; and (2) RCW 42.17A.320 by failing to include the proper sponsor identification on political advertising sponsored by his Campaign.

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, the C-4 reports filed by the Chris Thobaben Campaign, and the response from the Campaign. As a result of staff's review, we found the following:

- Christopher Thobaben filed a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) on June 5, 2018, declaring his candidacy for State Representative in the 18th Legislative District, and choosing the "Full Reporting": option.
- On June 12, 2018, the Campaign filed the June 2018 C-4 covering the period of May 18, to May 31, 2018, disclosing a \$ 595.34 monetary loan made by the candidate's spouse. The C-4 report was due to be filed no later than June 11, 2018 and was filed one day late by the Campaign. The 21-day pre-primary C-4 report covering the period of June 1, to July 16, 2018, disclosed \$3,665.23 in monetary and in-kind contributions received and disclosed \$681.72 in monetary expenditures for costs associated with the Campaign website, yard signs and other political advertisement and was filed 29 days late. The 7-day pre-primary C-4 report covering the period of July 17, to July 30, 2018, disclosed \$410.00 in monetary contributions received and disclosed \$803.63 in monetary expenditures for costs associated with parade participation, yard signs and consulting services and was filed 15 days late.
- In his response, Mr. Thobaben stated that he had inadvertently failed to identify his participation in the August 2018 primary election inside of his ORCA (Online Reporting of Campaign Activity) dataset and therefore missed the deadline for July reports. In addition, he stated that he was in transit, returning from annual training with the Marine Corps Reserve when the filing deadline for the 21-day and 7-day pre-primary C-4 reports passed and that the reports were filed immediately upon receiving notification regarding the missing reports.
- Mr. Thobaben confirmed that the Campaign yard signs, clothing and bumper stickers were exempt from the sponsor identification requirements identified in WAC 390-18-030.

Christopher Thobaben is a first-time candidate for public office. He has no prior PDC violations and took quick corrective action to address the non-compliance issues identified in your complaint.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1). Mr. Thobaben will be reminded about the importance of complying with the reporting requirements for a candidate under the Full Reporting option to timely file C-3 and C-4 reports disclosing contributions and expenditures, including in-kind contributions, debts or other obligations, undertaken by his Campaign, in accordance with RCW 42.17A.235 and ,240 for the duration of the 2018 election cycle.

If you have questions, you may contact Jennifer Hansen at 1-360-586-4560 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s_____

Jennifer Hansen
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

/s_____

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director

cc: Christopher Thobaben