

October 23, 2018

Tabitha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator
Washington Public Disclosure Commission
pdcc@pdccwa.gov – Complaint #41577

Dear Tabitha –

Thank you for letting me know Mr. Saturn's response to my complaint has been posted. I reviewed it, and hoped to offer a few pieces of information:

- Mr. Saturn specifically asks where I obtained a copy of the 2019 Thurston PUD draft budget. I can answer that 100% of the information I used in the complaint came off the internet, on websites available to the public. I do have some experience and skill at navigating public websites, but I can assure you, all information I provided came directly from documents I found online, sitting at my computer.
- I occasionally was poetic in my writing, and use the royal 'we'. My consulting firm IS actually under contract to the Linda Oosterman campaign, which has also been clearly disclosed in her expense reports. In addition, I have been close friends with Commissioner Russ Olsen for a decade- I went to grade school with his wife. And I've been friends with Commissioner Chris Stearns since we met working on the 2000 coordinated campaign as volunteers. And none of these relationships, personal or professional, preclude me from filing documents with the PDC.

Mr. Saturn's response points out that some of my evidence points to falsifications about the PUD, and not his opponent. This was also pointed out to me by Fox Blackthorn after initially filing the complaint, and on a careful re-reading of the statute, makes sense as not a violation.

I did, however, provide FOUR additional pieces of evidence, that are included in the full complaint. Each of these constituted a falsehood about material facts, directly about his opponent. And Mr. Saturn's response addresses none of these:

- He said his opponent benefitted from nearly \$9000 in ads *paid for by Puget Sound Energy*. Yes, he used the actual disclosure language, but substituted Puget Sound Energy for the actual donor. This is a false statement. Mr. Saturn makes no response to this evidence.
- He made an ad hominem attack by claiming his opponent 'didn't understand state laws.' While not as black and white as who paid for an ad, this falsehood was far more insulting and mean-spirited. Mr. Saturn makes no response to this evidence.
- He declared his opponent has 'ties to the Freedom Foundation.' We offered specific evidence of Ms. Oosterman's ties to organizations opposed to the Freedom Foundation. After offering no proof at all in the statement, Mr. Saturn makes no response to this evidence.
- He stated his opponent was 'sponsored' like some kind of professional athlete. This is simply not true. Mr. Saturn makes no response to this evidence.

In summary, the PDC indicated the false statements must be made about the candidate's opponent. I offered four specific pieces of evidence. Mr. Saturn had ample opportunity to rebut or refute my evidence. His response does not address any of this evidence.

Respectfully,

Joe Hyer