



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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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)

August 12, 2016

[Geary4yakimacountycommissioner@gmail.com](mailto:Geary4yakimacountycommissioner@gmail.com)

Subject: PDC complaint 7429

Dear Mr. Geary:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its initial review of the complaint you filed on August 9, 2016. Your complaint alleged that Charles Ross, Yakima County Auditor, may have violated RCW 42.17A.555 by using public resources to support a political campaign.

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

- In his response Mr. Ross explains that the Auditor's office considers verbal requests for photos to be official requests and that Mr. Leita asked that the photo be used. The photo was on file at the Auditor's office from a previous election.
- Mr. Ross also stated that he forgot to instruct his staff to upload the photo and that is why it appeared so late.
- The PDC does not have jurisdiction over RCW 29A.32.320.
- Charles Ross has no previous violations of PDC laws and rules.

Based on these initial findings, I have determined there is no reason to believe a material violation of any law under the Commission's jurisdiction has occurred. The PDC has closed the matter, and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into your complaint.

If you have questions, you may contact Jacob Berkey, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [Jacob.berkey@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:Jacob.berkey@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Jacob Berkey  
Compliance Staff

Endorsed by,

Evelyn Fielding Lopez  
Executive Director

cc: Charles Ross