

THE NORTH CREEK LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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July 7, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Tony Perkins
Compliance Officer
Public Disclosure Commission
711 Capitol Way Room 206
P.O. Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98507-0908

Re: **PDC Complaint - Case No. 5729**

Dear Tony,

Please consider this letter the response of my client Bring Back Our \$30 Car Tabs Voters Want More Choices ("VWMC") to the July 5, 2016 correspondence from your office announcing that the Public Disclosure Commission will meet tomorrow to receive staff's report concerning the complaint filed by Knoll Lowney (the "Lowney Complaint"). I am unable to attend the hearing on Friday but would offer the following for the Commissioners consideration and I would accept your offer to provide an audio tape of the proceedings.

After reviewing the Report of Investigation and Executive Summary, my clients would like to make the Commission aware of the following before it makes a recommendation to the Attorney General. I believe the record before it does not adequately reflect the following points:

1. In the past 17 years, this was the first time my clients had ever made expenditures referencing individual elected officials and their positions on issues. Although they have extensive experience in initiative matters they do not have any in expenditures that mention legislators by name.

2. The web videos that were the subject of the underlying complaint were first aired on April 12th, 2016 and were sent directly to the media, to supporters, and to legislators. My clients' sponsorship and advocacy for these web videos were prominently disclosed. They

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didn't hide their involvement, and at no time was the public deprived of the knowledge of who sponsored the advertisement.

3. The three expenditures to three vendors paid to create and air the ads were reported on my clients' March PDC reports uploaded on April 10th, 2016 (the date, amount, and vendor name were all disclosed).

4. Shortly after the Lowney Complaint was filed, my client's treasurer Barbara Smith contacted PDC staff and asked what changes needed to be made to address the Lowney Complaint's concerns. By May 24th, 2016 all changes suggested by PDC staff were made and amended C4 and Schedule A forms were uploaded. The complaint did not reference any changes were needed to the C1PC form nor did PDC staff until late June.

5. In late June, investigator Tony Perkins first raised the issue of changes to the C1PC form. Within a few days of receiving this information, my clients' sent Mr. Perkins proposed changes to the C1PC. On June 30th, 2016 a final signed amended C1PC form was mailed in and on July 5, 2016 my clients received notice of this hearing.

In summary, my clients believed their initial filings accurately conveyed to the public the sponsorship and spending associated with these videos. When alerted on two occasions that changes were needed to PDC forms, my clients made them without hesitation. At no time did my clients seek to hide their sponsorship and involvement with these web videos, nor the funds that were used to pay for them. The web videos were designed to express displeasure at the votes elected representatives had taken on an issue of great concern to my clients. These web videos were aired from mid-April through mid-May, before any of the legislators referenced had filed with their county auditor for re-election. At no time was the public, the press, or legislators deprived of their right to know who was sponsoring and paying for these web videos. My clients sought advice from PDC staff and, once advice was given, in both instances amended forms were filed soon after.

In conclusion, my clients would ask that the Commission address the allegations in light of the above and without prejudice with respect to other matters that have come before the Commission and its staff.

Sincerely,

THE NORTH CREEK LAW FIRM



Mark C. Lamb