

The following is the Thurston County Democrats response to the Citizen Action complaint filed by Glen Morgan.

1. Failure to update C1PC:

Report was filed on January 5th, 2017 within 10 days of January 1st when the new Treasurer took over the duties. Our Bylaws do not state when new officers start their terms. The name of the Chair and all contact information remained unchanged from the prior C1. We don't believe the changes made a material difference of the intent of the C1.

2. Failure to accurately identify contributors:

The Thurston County Democrats hold an annual dinner. At the dinner, there are multiple separate small fundraising events that we report separately from the ticket purchases and separate from high value auction items. In each of the low-cost events several small contributions are made to combine for the total reported. The following is a breakdown of each of the low-cost events.

- \$1295 - Photo Booth proceeds. There was a photo booth and costumes, people paid \$20 for event pictures. People often groups paid in cash.
- \$2757 - Dessert Dash. Everyone at the table kicks in a little money, and the table with the highest total gets first pick of the desserts. The last table gets Twinkies. Again, all individual donations are in small amounts.
- \$350 - Democracy on the Lake event. A summer party, in July, hosted by our County Auditor, we sold guest tickets for \$25 each. Event is separate, no one is paying more than \$25.
- \$575 - Cocktails and Dogtails - similar to the above, but hosted by Mayor Selby and again each ticket was \$25 but with more tickets sold.
- \$558 - Wine at the Table Mini-Auction - Each table came with a wrapped bottle of wine - everybody at the table says what they'll pay - winner gets the wine.
- \$150 - 'Pass the Hat' – We considered booking this as anonymous – Jim Cooper as part of his sponsorship of the event was the honorary Auctioneer, challenges the audience to see who gets to go to the buffet line first. Small amounts of cash were quickly thrown into a hat with one table earning the right to eat first.

If the PDC determines these do not qualify to be reported as a low-cost fund raisers we will be happy to change the reporting for our future dinners.

3. Accepting over-limit contributions from candidates:

The Thurston County Democrats sold Kennedy Dinner "Sponsorships" to candidates. The sponsorship includes dinner but also value added publicity like announcement of sponsors, advertisements, speaking time, helping with the auction etc. As such we do not believe that the candidates did pay over the limit contributions. When adding up all the costs, food, decorations, catering service, room rental, etc. the cost per person was \$75.19. This is in excess of our \$65 (early bird special) and \$75 ticket prices. So technically we are probably over reporting but we are attempting to be open and transparent.

4. Failure to include sponsor ID on the Thurston County Democrats website:

As the official web site for the Thurston County Democrats, it clearly states it belongs to the Thurston County Democrats and that we reserve all rights. As such it is obviously paid for by the Thurston County Democrats. The web site was used for the Thurston County Democratic Party only. It was not used to advertise any specific campaigns. If the PDC wants a "paid for" line added, we can do so.

5. Failure to accurately file expenditure and contribution reports:

The Thurston County Democrats has in good faith tried to file C3s and C4s in an accurate and timely manner with the information that is available at the time. Occasionally honest nominal mistakes were made like forgetting to account for credit card fees or interest. Because we want to be honest and open when we find such errors, we filed amended forms. There are other times when depending on when the 10th fell we may not have received a bank statement to know some of the information such as fees and interest. There were a few times when the accounts were off by less than \$100 and as volunteers we ran out of time to find the error. We filed the report timely and then amended the report when the error was found. In the case of the In kind contribution from Walt Bowen, he did not provide that information until September. Some organizations do not do timely billing so filings have to be adjusted when the bills arrive. Also, if an adjustment is made to a prior C4 or C3 all subsequent C3s and C4s in that year must be adjusted as they are accumulative reports. In reviewing the examples cited by Mr. Morgan it is clear that the errors or adjustments are random and in small amounts. They are honest errors. There is no pattern that would show any intent to deceive or cover up expenses or donations. In fact, by going back and making corrections the Thurston County Democrats has done just the opposite of Mr. Morgan accusations. The Thurston County Democrats will continue striving to file accurately and timely.

6. Multiple Violations of RCW 42.17A2406 and RCW 42.17A445:

These are honest misspellings and the best descriptions that can be typed in limited space. For example: We typed Burger "Voothe" instead of "booth" or typed "newsletter" instead of "newsleter".

7. Illegal Personal use of party fund:

The item in question is spices used in the Thurston County Democrats Burger Booth called "Spice". Receipt can be easily provided.

8. Failure to include JZ night a sponsor:

JZ night's contributions were reported as required. There was no "pledge" of a donation. Her contributions are less than 80% of total donations and as such she is not a "sponsor".

9. Failure to debt for caucus meeting locations:

2016 was an extremely unusual year for presidential caucuses. We had no idea what turnout to expect and how long the caucuses would take. As such we had no idea what the cost for each facility would be until we received the invoice. Hourly rental varied depending on length of total time, number of janitorial hours needed, possible overtime, extra cost for extra chair set up etc. Prior years were not able to be used for estimates. We filed amendments as actual costs were know. If the PDC requires estimates, even if they are guesses, we will be happy to include them. We will make sure that future Treasurers are aware of this need.