



808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.
Spokane, Washington 99201-3313
(509) 625-6032

Violation Complaint Received 10/26/2019:

Complaint of Violation Statement of Facts

On 6 occasions it appears that Michael Cathcart have accepted more than the allowable limit in contributions. According to page 22 in the candidate guide, unless Mr. Cathcart personally contributes \$11,500 to his own campaign, then the maximum allowable contribution would be \$500 for the primary, \$500 for the general. As of today the PDC shows a total of \$1325.49 as his personal in-kind donations to his campaign. This is far from the \$11,500 required for Mr. Cathcart to accept \$1500 donations on those 6 occasions.

Candidate Response

Here is the rest of the law the unnamed person chose to ignore before filing the complaint.

- c. The limitations imposed by SMC 01.07.030(A) shall not apply to a candidate's contributions of his or her own resources to his or her own campaign, or contributions to the candidate's campaign by the candidate or the candidate's spouse or assets of their marital community. If a candidate makes personal contributions to their campaign in aggregate of \$11,500 or more of his or her own funds, including surplus funds from a previous campaign, or independent expenditures are made in support of a candidate or in opposition to his or her opponent in aggregate of \$11,500, all candidates for election to that office may surpass the contribution limits set forth in SMC 01.07.030(A) and may solicit and accept contributions up to the limits allowed by the Washington Public Disclosure Commission. The remainder of this chapter shall apply to all candidates.

You can use the public disclosure commission's website to verify that we have met the standard.

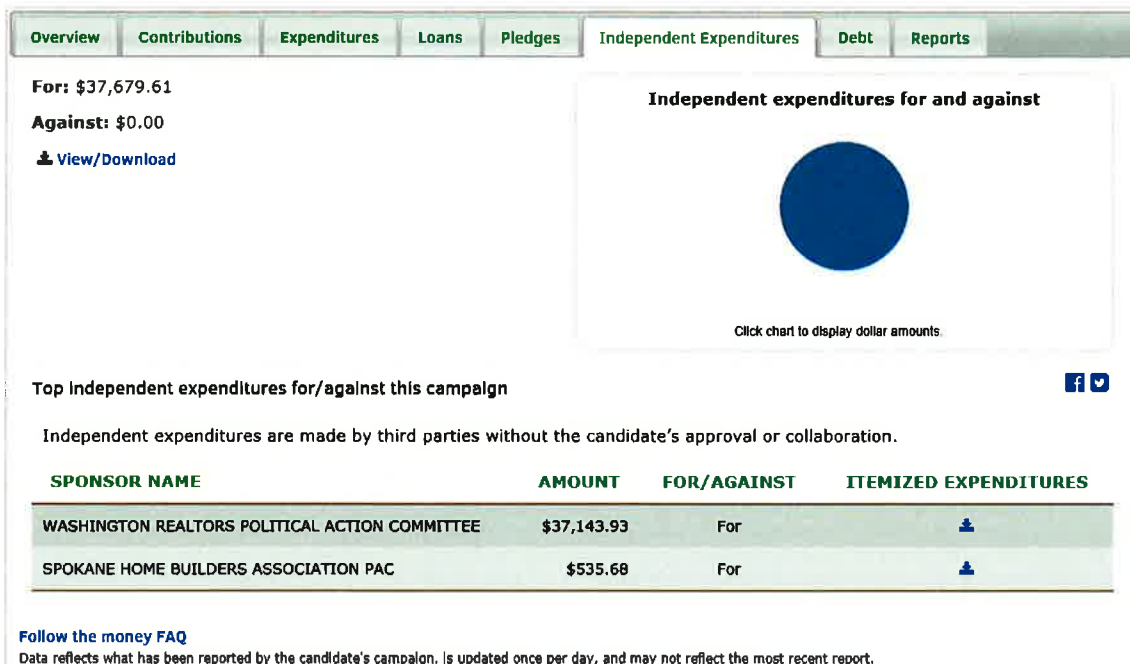
City Response:

A Complaint of Violation was received on 10/26/2019. Based on this complaint, a Notice of Violation was issued to the candidate on 10/31/2019. This Notice requested a response that either there was no violation or that the violation had been cured.

On 10/31/2019, a response was received from the candidate indicating no violation had occurred.

A review of independent expenditures received by the candidate shows the following receipts, allowing the candidate to surpass the limits set forth in SMC 01.07.030 (A) up to that allowed by state law.

Michael Cathcart, 2019



Based on this information, the City agrees with the candidate that no violation has occurred and the complaint is considered closed.

All correspondence related to this Complaint of Violation is attached.

Fair Elections Complaint of Non-Compliance - 10/26/2019

Complainant

Shannon Benn

Date

10/26/2019

Street Address

3424 E Euclid

Email Address

timandshannonb@hotmail.com

Phone

(509) 808-3703

Subject(s)

Michael Cathcart, candidate for Spokane City Council

Statement of Facts

On 6 occasions it appears that Michael Cathcart have accepted more than the allowable limit in contributions. According to page 22 in the candidate guide, unless Mr. Cathcart personally contributes \$11,500 to his own campaign, then the maximum allowable contribution would be \$500 for the primary, \$500 for the general. As of today the PDC shows a total of \$1325.49 as his personal in-kind donations to his campaign. This is far from the \$11,500 required for Mr. Cathcart to accept \$1500 donations on those 6 occasions.



October 31, 2019

CANDIDATE MICHAEL CATHCART
PO Box 28
SPOKANE, WA, 99210

RE: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION- SPOKANE FAIR ELECTIONS CODE 01.07.040**

Dear Candidate:

The following complaint of violation of the Spokane Fair Elections Code has been received regarding your campaign:

On 6 occasions it appears that Michael Cathcart have accepted more than the allowable limit in contributions. According to page 22 in the candidate guide, unless Mr. Cathcart personally contributes \$11,500 to his own campaign, then the maximum allowable contribution would be \$500 for the primary, \$500 for the general. As of today the PDC shows a total of \$1325.49 as his personal in-kind donations to his campaign. This is far from the \$11,500 required for Mr. Cathcart to accept \$1500 donations on those 6 occasions.

Within five (5) days of the date of this notice, please respond with either documentation that there was no violation or that the violation has been cured. Response may be by email to elections@spokanecity.org or by mail to City of Spokane Office of Contract and Business Standards 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd. Spokane, WA 99201.

Any questions regarding this notice may be sent to elections@spokanecity.org.

Sincerely,

The City of Spokane Office of Contract and Business Standards

From: Michael Cathcart <michael@votecathcart.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2019 3:34 PM
To: Elections
Subject: Re: Notice of Reported Violation

[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]

My response:

Here is the rest of the law the unnamed person chose to ignore before filing the complaint.

c. The limitations imposed by SMC 01.07.010(1) on a candidate's contributions of his or her own funds to a campaign, or contributions to the candidate or the candidate's spouse or assets of the candidate makes personal contributions of \$11,500 or more of his or her own funds to a previous campaign, or independent expenditures of a candidate or in opposition to his or her campaign of \$11,500, all candidates for election to public office shall accept contributions up to the limits allowed by the Disclosure Commission. The remainder of the law applies to candidates.

You can use the public disclosure commission's website to verify that we have met the standard.

Thank you,

Michael Cathcart