



EVERGREEN FREEDOM FOUNDATION

...because freedom matters!

September 30, 2005

Mr. Phil Stutzman
Director of Compliance
Public Disclosure Commission
PO Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Mr. Stutzman:

We understand the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has decided to investigate the complaint filed by the Evergreen Freedom Foundation against Federal Way Education Association (FWEA) building representative Diane Lasch, for her use of public facilities to conduct political campaign activities in violation of RCW 42.17.130.

We urge you to expand the scope of your investigation based on the following facts.

The activities of the FWEA are directed by its president Shannon Rasmussen. Ms. Rasmussen is a school district employee and is thereby subject to the provisions of RCW 42.17.130. As president of the FWEA, Ms. Rasmussen is ultimately responsible for the writing, publishing and distribution of the union newsletter, including September 6 issue cited in our complaint.

As a general rule, FWEA building representatives in Federal Way's 37 schools distribute the FWEA's newsletter in teachers' school mail boxes. A list of the FWEA's current building representatives with corresponding schools is attached.

As the FWEA's highest officer, Ms. Rasmussen is responsible for ensuring that building representatives under her control are aware of and comply with RCW 42.17.130.

For these reasons, the Evergreen Freedom Foundation requests that the PDC expand its investigation to include the actions of the FWEA president Shannon Rasmussen, who is also a school district employee and subject to the provisions of RCW 42.17.130.

We trust that the PDC will investigate the situation to the degree necessary to ensure that the district-wide violations that occurred are adequately addressed.

Sincerely,

Michael Reitz
Director, Labor Policy Center