

# COMPLAINT NO. 2020-49-WITR AUDITOR'S OFFICE INITIATED COMPLAINT CITY OF PORTLAND

## **COMPLAINANT:**

## **City Elections Office**

1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 130 Portland, OR 97204 elections@portlandoregon.gov

# **RESPONDENT(S)**:

## Do Write PDX

1776 NE Lombard Street Portland, OR 97211

# **DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY**

timothy.b.ramos@gmail.com writeinteressaraiford@gmail.com

#### Law/Code/Charter/Rules:

Portland City Charter Section 3-303 Portland City Code Section 2.10.030

#### Summary:

The Portland City Charter (Charter) and Portland City Code (Code) require the Auditor's Office to issue a complaint when provided a reason to believe that a violation of City Campaign Finance Regulations may have occurred. See <u>Charter Section 3-305(d)</u> and corresponding <u>Code Section 2.10.050 D.</u>

On October 28, 2020, the Auditor's Office received information providing a reason to believe Do Write PDX violated City Campaign Finance Regulations. The Auditor's Office initiates this complaint to pursue further investigation.

# Allegation(s):

City of Portland 1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 310, Portland, OR 97204 (503) 823-3546 www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/elections





The Auditor's Office alleges violation(s) of City Campaign Finance Regulations, in that Do Write PDX produced a communication to voters that did not include prominent disclosures as is required in Charter Section 3-303 and corresponding Code Section 2.10.030.

- 1. As defined in ORS 260.005(1)(a), Teressa Raiford was a City mayoral candidate for the May 19, 2020 Primary Election and the November 3, 2020 General Election.
- 2. Do Write PDX dba Write in Teressa Raiford is a political committee subject to the City's campaign disclosure regulations.
- In October 2020, the City of Portland Election's Office investigated Complaint No. 2020-46-NU, in which a complainant submitted a screenshot of a text message alleged to be sent from Next Up Oregon dba Next Up Action Fund.
- 4. In its response to that complaint, Next Up Action Fund denied sending the text message in question.
- 5. The text message also included the statement, "This is Emily with the Write in Teressa Raiford Campaign." The text message did not include any additional funding information.
- 6. The text message did not include disclosures of any political committee's top five dominant contributors, the types of businesses from which those contributors obtained a majority of income over the previous five years, nor the types of businesses from which Do Write PDX obtained a majority of its income over the previous five years.
- 7. Text messages are subject to campaign disclosure regulations, and disclosures must be current to within 10 business days of transmission.

# Timeline for Response and Investigation:

Under Code Subsection 2.10.050 E. 3., you have until <u>5:00 PM on November 25, 2020</u>, to submit a written response to this complaint along with any relevant, supplemental materials. Please submit any such materials electronically, using the above-referenced case name, to <u>elections@portlandoregon.gov</u>.

At this time, the Auditor's Office can only guarantee receipt of materials if sent by email.

After the 10-business-day period for submitting a written response, our office will render a decision within another 10 business days.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

DATE: November 10, 2020

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Prepared by:

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