



P O R T L A N D
CITY AUDITOR
Elections

COMPLAINT NO. 2020-40-LS
AUDITOR'S OFFICE INITIATED COMPLAINT
CITY OF PORTLAND

COMPLAINANT:

City Elections Office

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

RESPONDENTS:

Loretta Smith

PO Box 42307
Portland, OR 97242
sloretta@aol.com

Smith

Committee to Elect Loretta

3321 SE 20th Avenue
Portland, OR 97202
info@voteloretasmith.com

Law/Code/Charter/Rules:

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

Summary:

The City Charter and City 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 Portland City Charter 3-305(d) and Portland City Code (PCC) 2.10.050 D.

On August 18, 2020, the Auditor's Office received information providing a basis of reasonable belief of potential violations of campaign finance regulations by Committee to Elect Loretta Smith. The Auditor's Office initiates this complaint to pursue further investigation.

Allegation(s):

The Auditor's Office alleges violation(s) of campaign finance regulations, in that Committee to Elect Loretta Smith sent a campaign-related mailer to voters that did not timely, prominently disclose the campaign's top five dominant contributors that paid to provide or present the communication.





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According to these regulations and information received by the Elections Office:

1. Loretta Smith was a candidate, as defined in PCC 2.10.080 A., in the August 11, 2020 City of Portland Special Election for Commissioner Position No. 2.
2. Committee to Elect Loretta Smith was the principal campaign committee and candidate committee for candidate Loretta Smith, as defined in PCC 2.10.080 B.
3. In August 2020, the City of Portland Election's Office investigated Complaint No. 2020-28-LS. During the course of that investigation, the Election's Office received a copy of a campaign mailer produced for Committee to Elect Loretta Smith and sent to voters on or around April 21, 2020.
4. The mailer did not include disclosure information related to the candidate committee's top five dominant contributors.
5. The mailer did provide funding disclosures that were current to within 10 business days of the communication's printing.

Timeline for Response and Investigation:

You have until 5:00 PM on September 22, 2020, to submit a written response to this complaint along with any relevant, supplemental materials, per the timeline designated in PCC 2.10.050 E.3. Please submit any such materials electronically, using the above-referenced case name, to elections@portlandoregon.gov. 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: September 8, 2020

Prepared by:

Louise Hansen
City Elections Officer
City of Portland Auditor's Office

