Former candidate agrees to $8,000 payment for personal use of committee funds and other issues

Michael Mangan, a former Everett city councilor and candidate for state representative, agreed to a settlement with OCPF concerning prohibited personal expenditures, non-disclosure of campaign finance activity and failing to keep records, according to a disposition agreement between Mangan and OCPF.

To resolve the issues, Mangan agreed to personally pay $8,000 to the state’s general fund in four installments. The first installment of $1,000 was paid yesterday, and the final installment of $3,000 is due March 1, 2016.

The disposition agreement is the result of an OCPF review of Mangan Committee records from 2011 to early 2014, during which Mangan was an Everett city councilor (he left office in early 2014). In January 2013, Mangan transferred his committee account to OCPF to promote his candidacy for state representative, but was unsuccessful in the special primary held two months later. On Nov. 5, 2013, Mangan was defeated in an election for alderman and currently holds no elected office.

OCPF identified several issues during the review, including personal expenditures by the candidate, failing to keep records, commingling of personal and committee funds and failing to disclose campaign finance activity. The candidate also served as his own treasurer, which is prohibited.

The total amount of committee money used personally is approximately $6,800. Most of the personal expenditures were $3,400 in cash withdrawals and transfers totaling approximately $2,300 from the committee account to the candidate’s personal account. On another occasion, the candidate paid his rent and cable bill directly out of the campaign account, totaling approximately $1,100.
OCPF also found that the committee did not keep receipts or records for numerous expenditures, including ATM and teller withdrawals by the candidate, and the committee failed to file several campaign finance reports with the City of Everett.

According to the disposition agreement, if the candidate decides to seek elected office at any level prior to Dec. 31, 2017, he must notify OCPF in writing prior to organizing a committee, filing nomination papers, or raising and spending any money in relation to a future candidacy.

The disposition agreement, signed by Mangan and OCPF Director Michael J. Sullivan, is available here. A disposition agreement is a voluntary written agreement entered into between the subject of a review and OCPF, in which the subject agrees to take certain specific actions.

OCPF is an independent state agency that administers the state’s campaign finance law, which provides for disclosure and regulation of campaign finance activity by candidates and political committees.