

Respondent Name

Anthony Martinelli

Complainant Name

Glen Morgan

Complaint Description

Glen Morgan reported via the portal Fri, 20 Sept 2019 at 11:07AM

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that Anthony Martinelli running for the Des Moines City Council has frequently failed to comply with Washington State's campaign finance laws (**RCW 42.17A**) during both his current 2019 campaign and his failed 2017 campaign. Specifically:

1) Failure to accurately describe expense. (Violation of RCW 42.17A.240(6) & WAC 390-16037, RCW 42.17A.235)

Martinelli's campaign has regularly failed to follow Washington State's Campaign Finance laws as they apply to the reporting of expenditures. Many C4s this campaign has filed contains violations of the statute and the rules written by the Public Disclosure Commission which support the statute.

Here are some examples which must be corrected by this campaign to at least go through the motions of complying with the statute: Examples of a failure to provide sufficient detail of expenditures (unambiguous violations of **RCW 42.17A.240(6)** and **WAC 390-16-037** (see **example B** provided at **WAC 390-16-037(3)**):

For example, the expenditures reported on **PDC Report # 100895767** failed to report the quantity of signs which were purchased for \$902 from "Signs by Tomorrow" on 3/15/19. These quantity of signs purchased yesterday should be defined for the voters of tomorrow. This is a clear violations of **WAC 390-16-037(3) example B** provided. Additionally, during Martinelli's previous 2017 campaign for the Des Moines City Council, he also failed to comply with this same statute and WAC – See **PDC Report # 100793913** and also **PDC Report # 100776012** as additional examples where the number of signs purchased from "Signs by Tomorrow" were not reported correctly in 2017. These are clear examples of a failure to provide sufficient detail of expenditures (unambiguous violations of **RCW 42.17A.240(6)** and **WAC 390-16-037** (see **example B** provided at **WAC 390-16-037(3)**).

Despite the small size and limited funding for this local political campaign, these are important positions, and repeat and experienced candidates for office like Martinelli should still be expected to comply with the statute like everyone else.

2) Failure to provide accurate information for contributions to political campaign (Violation of RCW 42.17A.240, .235)

Some information has been concealed from the PDC regarding the source of some claimed candidate contributions to his own political campaign. For example, if the PDC were to look at **PDC Report # 100899665**, Martinelli claims to have contributed “\$2,927” to his own political campaign, which is certainly legal, but there is only evidence to support cash contributions of \$2,000, and no evidence of either loans or in-kind contributions to explain the other “\$927” referenced in that report. It isn’t clear if this is false information or if information required to be reported to the PDC is missing elsewhere.

3). Failure to provide accurate information (or concealing information) on personal financial affairs statements filed with the PDC (Violation of RCW 42.17A.700, .710)

In both FIs which have been filed by this candidate to the PDC covering the last few political races in which this candidate participated (see attached), the claims of income are for earning less than \$4,500 per year as a self-employed writer. However, this is in direct conflict with public evidence which would indicate his income must be much higher than what he has reported to the PDC in these financial affairs statements.

For example, according to his own campaign bio (see attached), he founded and launched an “online business which currently employees multiple people and receives millions of yearly views.” Presumably he is referring to his online business/blog site called “The Joint Blog” (see attached) which also has obvious on-line advertising, from which he would presumably be receiving income, and enough income to pay his “multiple people” and bring home enough revenue to cover his expenses. This source of income appears to be unreported to the PDC. Secondly, based on allegation #2 (see above), and according to documents the Martinelli campaign already filed with the PDC, he put somewhere between \$2,000 and \$2,927 of his \$4,499(max) income into his political campaign – leaving him with somewhere between \$1,572 and \$2,499 on which to live. Presumably this would include the rent at his current listed apartment (which exceeds his listed annual income) and the child support payments he makes (according to **PDC Report #100882330** – filed by nearby candidate for Burien City Council Cynthia Moore – see attached).

Please note, Anthony and Cynthia both co-founders and work at the Joint Blog as the attached screen shot of that website proves.

However, it is simply mathematically impossible that Mr. Martinelli has accurately reported the true sources of most of his income. It is likely possibility that he receives some income from his involvement in the marijuana industry – which should be reportable just like any other income. In fact, it must be reported as income according to Washington State’s Campaign Finance laws, and it appears he has failed to do so. One reason why local voters should know the true source of Martinelli’s income is his stated policy positions on selling pot in the City of Des Moines (see attached) and the voters should know that these policies could have a direct personal financial impact on Mr. Martinelli’s income. This is not illegal in Washington State, but it is illegal to conceal the truth from the voters by knowingly filing false

information with the PDC to conceal these facts from the voters who live in the City of Des Moines.

If, as it appears, Mr. Martinelli has willfully concealed the true source of his income from the voters of the City of Des Moines and he has willfully and knowingly filed false information with the PDC, this is almost certain to be a violation of **RCW 42.17A.750 (2)(c)**, and he may be subject to the sanctions defined in statute.

Let me know if you need additional information.

Best Regards,

Glen Morgan

Martinelli - the Joint Blog.pdf
182.23 KB

Martinelli - F1 - 100882070 - 2018 - 1-23-2019.pdf
473.75 KB

Martinelli - F1 - 100764577 - 2016-2017 - 7-24-2017.pdf
463.52 KB

Martinelli - City of Des Moines priorities.pdf
125.45 KB

Martinelli - Bio.pdf
165.52 KB

Cydney Moore - F1 - 2018 - 1-28-2019 - 100882330.pdf
481.69 KB

What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?

A politician should not be allowed to conceal sources of income from the public, particularly when those sources of income likely would indicate how he would personally financially benefit from the political policies he endorses. A politician should not conceal legally required details about how he spends his campaign dollars, and where those campaign dollars come from.

List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found

See attached

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

Mr. Martinelli, Cynthia Moore, candidate for Burien City Council

Certification (Complainant)

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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About Us



About Us:

TheJointBlog.com is a cannabis news and information website.

Founders:

Anthony Martinelli

Anthony is co-founder of TheJointBlog. He has been published by multiple media outlets including the Seattle Times, and he is a former contributor for Village Voice Media.

Cydney Moore

Cydney has worked with and made lasting contributions to numerous nonprofit organizations, and currently serves as a Steering Committee member for the nonprofit political committee *Sensible Washington*. Her efforts expand to multiple social justice issues, and her work has been published by various sources.

Logo design:

Chris McManus

Activist and media/tech entrepreneur.

Editor's Note:

We strive to publish nothing but 100% accurate information, and hyperlink our articles to the direct source of the story whenever possible. If we've published something that has errors in it, or something that isn't factual, please let us know as soon as possible and we'll quickly correct the mistake.

Thank you for reading TheJointBlog!



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Refer to instruction manual for detailed assistance and examples. Deadlines: Incumbent elected and appointed officials -- by April 15. Candidates and others -- within two weeks of becoming a candidate or being newly appointed to a position. SEND REPORT TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION	DOLLAR CODE A \$1 to \$4,499 B \$4,500 to \$23,999 C \$24,000 to \$47,999 D \$48,000 to 119,999 E \$120,000 or more	Covers: 2018 Received: 01-23-2019
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<table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:33%;">Last Name</td> <td style="width:33%;">First</td> <td style="width:33%;">Middle Initial</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MARTINELLI</td> <td>ANTHONY</td> <td>J</td> </tr> </table>	Last Name	First	Middle Initial	MARTINELLI	ANTHONY	J	Names of immediate family members, including registered domestic partner. If there is no reportable information to disclose for dependent children, or other dependents living in your household, do not identify them. Do identify your spouse or registered domestic partner. See F-1 manual for details.
Last Name	First	Middle Initial					
MARTINELLI	ANTHONY	J					
Mailing Address (Use PO Box or Work Address) 2184112TH AVE S. APT. 104D							
City	County	Zip + 4					
DES MOINES	KING	98198					

Filing Status (Check only one box.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An elected or state appointed official filing annual report <input type="checkbox"/> Final report as an elected official. Term expired: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate running in an election: month _____ year _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Newly appointed to an elective office <input type="checkbox"/> Newly appointed to a state appointive office <input type="checkbox"/> Professional staff of the Governor's Office and the Legislature	Office Held or Sought Office title: <u>CITY COUNCIL MEMBER</u> County, city, district or agency of the office, name and number: <u>CITY OF DES MOINES</u> Position number: _____ Term begins: <u>01-01-2018</u> ends: <u>01-01-2022</u>
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1	INCOME	List each employer, or other source of income (pension, social security, legal judgment, etc.) from which you or a family member, including registered domestic partner, received \$2,400 or more during the period. Include stock options received during the reporting period that had a value of \$2,400 or more. (Report interest and dividends in Item 3 on reverse)
Show Self (S) Spouse (SP/DP) Dependent (D)	Name and Address of Employer or Source of Compensation Self-Employed	Occupation or How Compensation Was Earned Writer
	1208 S. 216th St. Apt 104D DES MOINES WA 98198	Amount: (Use Code)
Check Here <input type="checkbox"/> if continued on attached sheet		

2	REAL ESTATE	List street address, assessor's parcel number, or legal description AND county for each parcel of Washington real estate with value of over \$12,000 in which you or a family member, including registered domestic partner, held a personal financial interest during the reporting period. (Show partnership, company, etc. real estate on F-1 supplement.)	
Property Sold or Interest Divested	Assessed Value (Use Code)	Name and Address of Purchaser	Nature and Amount (Use Code) of Payment or Consideration Received
Property Purchased or Interest Acquired		Creditor's Name/Address	Payment Terms Security Given Mortgage Amount - (Use Code) Original Current
All Other Property Entirely or Partially Owned			
Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if continued on attached sheet			

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

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Show Self (S) Spouse (SP/DP) Dependent (D)	Name and Address of Employer or Source of Compensation Self-Employed 1208 S. 216th St. Apt 104D DES MOINES WA 98198	Occupation or How Compensation Was Earned writer	Amount: (Use Code)												
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- **Increasing the number of marijuana outlets allowed in the city to five**

Why?

Currently there is just one marijuana outlet in the city. This not only gives them a monopoly within the city, it limits the city's potential tax revenue from marijuana sales and forces those who are using it for medical purposes to wait in long lines in order to buy their medicine. I would work to expand the allowed number of legal marijuana outlets to four, which is a more reasonable number for a city of over 30,000 (and if the market decides four is too many, then less will survive).

- **Supporting a 5% citywide tax on marijuana sales**

Why?

Because cities split just \$50,000 out of every \$1 million in taxes brought in from marijuana sales, Des Moines receives a minimal figure. Placing a 5% citywide tax on marijuana would bring in nearly half a million in new annual revenue for Des Moines (and that's based on having just one outlet), which could be used to improve public safety.

Generally I am against tax increases, but I believe this would have a minimal impact on people's lives (at most it would add \$0.50 per \$10 gram) while having a large impact on our city's budget. It is true that under current state law localities aren't allowed to place their own tax on marijuana, but I'm working with a group of bipartisan state lawmakers to pass a bill that would lower the state marijuana tax from 37% to 30%, while allowing cities to place a citywide tax of up to 7% (meaning even if Des Moines passed a 5% tax, prices would actually be slightly lower).

- **Removing taxes on feminine hygiene products and offering them for free at public restrooms**

Why?

Feminine hygiene products are a necessity and should not be taxed. In addition, they should be readily available in public restrooms. Those who are low-income shouldn't have to fear going without these products if there's an instance when they can't afford them.

Anthony MARTINELLI

For Des Moines City Council

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- Biography
- Platform
- Why I'm Running
- Endorsements
- Contact

Biography



Anthony was born in Cocoa Beach, Florida. At the age of 11 he moved with his family to Des Moines, where he has proudly remained for the past 18 years.

A graduate of Mt. Rainier High School, class of 2008, Anthony spent his junior and senior year attending classes at Highline Community College (now simply Highline College) through the Running Start Program. After graduation he attended the Evergreen State College where he studied journalism and environmental science.

A father of two awesome children, Anthony has previously served as the Campaign Manager for King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove, the Communications Director for a nonprofit organization, and he spent four years (2012-2016) as a unanimously elected Precinct Committee Officer (PCO). In 2011 Anthony launched an online business which currently employs multiple people and receives millions of yearly views.

In addition, Anthony has spent hundreds of hours volunteering for various causes including putting an end to private, for-profit prisons, and increasing voter registration and turnout. In 2014 he received his black belt in tae kwon do.

For a look at some of the policies Anthony will support if elected to the Des Moines City Council, [click here](#).

Anthony MARTINELLI

For Des Moines City Council

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MOORE	CYDNEY	M	

Mailing Address (Use PO Box or Work Address)		
250 S 162ND ST APT 22		
City	County	Zip + 4
BURIEN	KING	98148

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Show Self (S) Spouse (SP/DP) Dependent (D)	Name and Address of Employer or Source of Compensation Anthony Martinelli 2100 s. 260th st apt 302 DES MOINES WA 98198	Occupation or How Compensation Was Earned Child support	Amount: (Use Code) A	
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