City of Seattle
Ethics and Elections Commission

December 17, 2013

Ms. Adair Dammann, Treasurer
Service Employees International Union
Local 925 Public Service PAC
1914 N 34th Street, Suite 100
Seattle, WA 98103

Re: Late-filed Reports

Dear Ms. Dammann:

The Service Employees International Union Local 925 Public Service PAC (the "Committee") failed to timely file the 21-day and 7-day C-4s and failed to timely report an Independent Expenditure made prior to the General Election.

FACTS

On October 30, 2013, you contacted the SEEC to find out what your filing obligations with the City were for an Independent Expenditure made earlier in October. The Committee had incurred an obligation of $10,000 on or about October 9, 2013 that was required to be reported on the 21-day C-4. The Committee paid for half of a mailing in support of Mayor McGinn's re-election.[1]

The Committee was required to file 21- and 7-day C-4s with the SEEC to report its Independent Expenditure activity. The C-4s were not filed until November 26. A Special Report was filed on October 31st to report the $10,000 payment to Pyramid for a postcard mailer that was mailed on October 18.[2]

LATE FILING PENALTIES

The Seattle Elections Code authorizes the Executive Director to impose late filing penalties of $10 per day for each day that each report is due and not filed, and $50 per day for each day a report is due and not filed within seven days of an election. (SMC 2.04.330 B-D). The Committee's 21- and 7-day C-4s were filed on November 26, a total of seventy days late, fourteen of those days were subject to a penalty of $50 per day. The Committee faces a maximum late filing penalty of $1,260.

In determining a suitable penalty, I took into account the fact that you self-reported your delay in reporting; the public was made aware of your activity prior to the

[1] The American Federation of Teacher High Quality Child Care for All committee paid the remaining $10,000.

[2] The debt for this expenditure was incurred on October 9 and should have been reported on the 21-day C-4 and not on a Special Report.

election; and that you were responsive to my staff's request for additional records and reports. On the other hand, the public did not have access to a full picture of your activity since two critical reports were not timely filed. Nor was the expenditure of $10,000 timely reported. Balancing these factors, I am levying a fine of $250.

RIGHT TO APPEAL

You may appeal the Executive Director's assessments to the Commission by **4:00 PM, Tuesday, December 31, 2013**, pursuant to Administrative Rule 4, which provides in relevant part:

A. Upon the written request of a party aggrieved by the Executive Director's decision to … impose late-filing penalties under SMC 2.04.330, the action may be reviewed by the Commission.

…

C. An appeal of late-filing penalties shall be served at the Commission's office no later than 14 days after the date of mailing the decision of which review is sought.

D. A request for review shall state the grounds therefor, and shall be no longer than twelve 8 ½" x 11" double-spaced pages in length with margins of at least 1" on every side, and no more than 12 characters per inch.

ACTION TO TAKE

Deliver to the Commission office a check in the amount of $250 payable to the City of Seattle, or an appeal, **no later than 4:00 PM on Tuesday, December 31, 2013**.

CONCLUSION

The public relies on the SEEC's website to provide campaign disclosure information in an easily accessible format. Any delay in reporting inhibits our ability to give the public timely access to this information. Therefore we are compelled to impose penalties when reports have not been timely filed.

If you have any questions, or have information that we have not considered in this letter, please call me at 684-8577.

Very truly yours,

Wayne Barnett
Executive Director

cc: Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission