

# Chapter 390-32 WAC

## FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES CODE

### WAC

390-32-010	Fair Campaign Practices Code for candidates and political committees.
390-32-020	Filing—Fair Campaign Practices Code.
390-32-030	Complaints—Fair Campaign Practices Code.

### DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

390-32-040	Fair Campaign Practices Code for statewide ballot issues. [Order 92, § 390-32-040, filed 7/22/77.] Repealed by 85-22-029 (Order 85-04), filed 10/31/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370(1).
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**WAC 390-32-010 Fair Campaign Practices Code for candidates and political committees.** Pursuant to the provisions of RCW 42.17.370 (1) and (6) the public disclosure commission adopts this Fair Campaign Practices Code:

(1) I shall conduct my campaign, and to the extent reasonably possible shall insist that my supporters conduct themselves, in a manner consistent with the best American tradition, discussing the issues and presenting my record and policies with sincerity and candor.

(2) I shall uphold the right of every qualified voter to free and equal participation in the election process.

(3) I shall not participate in, and I shall condemn, personal vilification, defamation, and other attacks on any opposing candidate or party which I do not believe to be truthful, provable, and relevant to my campaign.

(4) I shall not use or authorize, and I shall condemn material relating to my campaign which falsifies, misrepresents, or distorts the facts, including but not limited to malicious or unfounded accusations creating or exploiting doubts as to the morality, patriotism or motivations of any party or candidate.

(5) I shall not appeal to, and I shall condemn appeals to, prejudices based on race, creed, sex or national origin.

(6) I shall not practice, and I shall condemn practices, which tend to corrupt or undermine the system of free election or which hamper or prevent the free expression of the will of the voters.

(7) I shall promptly and publicly repudiate the support of any individual or group which resorts, on behalf of my candidacy or in opposition to that of my opponent(s) to methods in violation of the letter or spirit of this code.

(8) I shall refrain from any misuse of the Public Disclosure Law, chapter 42.17 RCW to gain political advantage for myself or any other candidate.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370(1), 85-22-029 (Order 85-04), § 390-32-010, filed 10/31/85; Order 93, § 390-32-010, filed 8/26/77; Order 64, § 390-32-010, filed 11/25/75; Order 62, § 390-32-010, filed 8/26/75; Order 50, § 390-32-010, filed 3/3/75.]

**WAC 390-32-020 Filing—Fair Campaign Practices Code.** (1) A copy of the code provided in WAC 390-32-010 shall be printed in appropriate campaign reporting instructions made available to candidates and political committees.

(8/20/92)

(2) Failure to subscribe to the code shall not constitute a violation of chapter 42.17 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370, 92-18-002, § 390-32-020, filed 8/20/92, effective 9/20/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370(1), 86-08-030 (Order 86-02), § 390-32-020, filed 3/26/86; 85-22-029 (Order 85-04), § 390-32-020, filed 10/31/85; Order 93, § 390-32-020, filed 8/26/77; Order 91, § 390-32-020, filed 7/22/77; Order 62, § 390-32-020, filed 8/26/75; Order 59, § 390-32-020, filed 7/16/75; Order 52, § 390-32-020, filed 4/17/75.]

**WAC 390-32-030 Complaints—Fair Campaign Practices Code.** (1) Written and signed complaints alleging a violation of one or more specific provisions of the Fair Campaign Practices Code for candidates and political committees (WAC 390-32-010) may be submitted to the public disclosure commission by any person.

(2) Upon receipt of a complaint, the executive director shall forward a copy of the complaint to the complainee within twenty-four hours, accompanied by a request for a response to the complaint returned within five days from the date of mailing.

(3) Upon receipt of the complainee's response, the executive director shall forward a copy to the complainant. A copy of the complaint and the response shall be sent to news media. The complaint and the response shall be available at the commission office for public inspection and copying. If the complainee does not respond within five days, the complaint shall be made public without a response.

(4) The commission will make no attempt to secure a reply to and will make no public release of complaints received within eight days of an election.

(5) The commission will not issue comments or opinions about complaints or responses.

(6) In the absence of any contrary intention as expressed by the complainant, the filing of a complaint with the commission constitutes implied consent to have the complainant's identity disclosed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370(1), 85-22-029 (Order 85-04), § 390-32-030, filed 10/31/85; Order 93, § 390-32-030, filed 8/26/77; Order 91, § 390-32-030, filed 7/22/77.]