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Customer Service Information Notice: CSI-13 (Effective January 2020)

Campaign Contribution Limits

Adjustment of Campaign Contribution Limits for January 2020 through December 2021

Official Notice

Introduction and background

King County Code 1.05.105 states as follows:

“At the beginning of each even-numbered calendar year, the elections division shall increase or decrease all dollar amounts in this chapter based on changes in economic conditions as reflected in the inflationary index used by the Washington state Public Disclosure Commission under RCW 42.17.370...”

Historically, the Elections Department has made its biennial adjustments based on the inflationary index and computations used by the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC), to determine adjustments in the dollar amount used in campaign contribution rules.

In 2006, the State Legislature amended RCW 42.17A.405(1)(c) to impose limits on contributions to candidates seeking election to county offices in jurisdictions having over 200,000 registered voters. These limits are also to be adjusted for inflation in accordance with RCW 42.17A.125. (In 2012, chapter 42.17 RCW was recodified to 42.17A.)

On January 29, 2016, the PDC approved revisions to WAC 390-05-400. The contribution limits for candidates for county offices is established within WAC and became effective February 29, 2016. No adjustments have been made to WAC 390-05-400 since December 2018.

Revision

Based on the dollar amounts established by the PDC, the campaign contribution dollar limit established in KCC 1.05.040(A) remains for the period years 2020 through 2021 at:

Two thousand dollars (\$2,000) (\$1,000 per Election)

In the aggregate during the period from January 1, after the date of the previous general election through December 31, after the upcoming general election, to any candidate for the office of King County Executive, County Council, Assessor or Director of Elections.

Effective Dates

This revision is effective January 1, 2020 and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2021, unless sooner superseded by county directive.

Director, King County Department of Elections

Distribution:

King County Executive, King County Councilmembers,
King County Assessor, Major King County Political Parties