



July 12th, 2023

Spokane Ethics Commission Members

Via Mike Piccolo

Delivered via email

Re: May 31st, 2023, Complaint

Dear Commission Members:

I am respectfully requesting you consider declining jurisdiction over the May 31st, 2023, ethics complaint filed against me.

The complaint alleges I violated Spokane Municipal Code Section 01.04A.010 and Spokane Municipal Code 01.04A.030 (Subsections A, G, K, M, N).

However, I was acting within my role as a Legislative Assistant. An at-will employee that “serves at the pleasure of the Council Member, under their direct supervision.” The complaint, the allegations, and the evidence provided simply show that I was aiding my Council Member. It does not provide any evidence to support that I had a conflict of interest or that I was acting in a way that would benefit myself or others. Furthermore, the evidence provided are messages that were disclosed, discussed, and used in a case tried at the Spokane County Superior Court. The City of Spokane defended my direct supervisor, Council Member Zappone, and won the court case.

I ask, why would the City of Spokane deem my actions unethical, when they defended them in the Spokane County Superior Court? Why would the City of Spokane Ethics Commission rule on this complaint when it was already handled at a superior court?

I thank you for the time and once again respectfully request you decline jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gunn