

From: Democracy Voucher Program DemocracyVoucher@seattle.gov
Subject: Requesting a release from the MCV
Date: June 20, 2019 at 5:16 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients ;

DP

Dear Democracy Voucher Program participant,

With the primary approaching, we wanted to make sure you are aware of the options for your campaign should you be faced by an opponent who raises or spends more than \$75,000, or independent spending in your race that (when combined with the amount an opponent has raised or spent) is more than \$75,000.

Here are the most likely scenarios:

Scenario 1 – An opponent’s campaign exceeds \$75,000

If this happens, you can request permission from the Commission to collect up to \$500 contributions from contributors, which includes the value of a person’s voucher dollars. You are no longer subject to the \$75,000 MCV. (MCV is essentially the sum of what your campaign has spent and what you have available to spend.) You will continue receiving voucher dollars up to the difference between \$75,000 and your MCV which will be calculated using your most recent C-4. As you approach \$75k, you will file C-4s with us (not the PDC) before we disburse voucher proceeds to you in order to ensure that we don’t disburse vouchers to you beyond the \$75,000.

Scenario 2 Part 1 – Independent spending combined with campaign fundraising or spending exceeds \$75,000

If independent expenditures (against you or in favor of an opponent) combined with an opponent’s fundraising or spending total more than \$75,000, you can request permission to be released from the \$75,000 cap. You would still be subject to the \$250 contribution limit. You will continue receiving voucher dollars up to the difference between \$75,000 and your MCV which will be calculated using your most recent C-4. As you approach \$75,000, you will file C-4s with us (not the PDC) before we disburse voucher proceeds to you in order to ensure that we don’t disburse vouchers to you beyond the \$75,000.

Scenario 2 Part 2 – Post-release spending by a candidate exceeds \$75,000

If you’ve already been released from the \$75,000 cap based on independent spending and subsequently a candidate exceeds the \$75,000 MCV for program candidates, you may then request a release from the \$250 contribution limit. If that request is granted, you can then collect up to \$500 individual contributions, which includes the value of a person’s voucher dollars. You will continue receiving voucher dollars up to the difference between \$75,000 and the MCV which will be calculated using your most recent C-4. As you approach \$75,000, you will file C-4s with us (not the PDC) before we disburse voucher proceeds to you in order to ensure that we don’t disburse vouchers to you beyond the \$75,000.

Moving on the General

If you go on to the general election, your MCV will be \$150,000, minus up to \$75,000 from the primary. For example:

- If you raised or spent 65,000, your MCV for the general would be \$85,000.
- If you were granted release from the MCV during the primary, and you ended up spending \$120,000 during the primary, you would be eligible for \$75,000 for the general.

The process for requesting release is simple. Send an email to Executive Director, Wayne Barnett, at wayne.barnett@seattle.gov, with a cc to the [democracy voucher program at democracyvoucher@seattle.gov](mailto:democracyvoucher@seattle.gov). In that email, describe the conditions of your request, primarily the nature of the oppositional spending. At the same time, submit a current C-4 by email to democracyvoucher@seattle.gov so that we have a snapshot of what you have raised and spent to date.

If you have any questions about the release process, we recommend you contact our office as soon as possible to discuss.

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