

Submission to Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters, Tasmanian Parliament
Inquiry into the Conduct of the 2024 House of Assembly General Election and 2024 Legislative Council elections
September 2024

Dear Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission into your inquiry into the 2024 elections. I understand my submission will be published and request that my name remain private.

I write in the hope that the Committee will consider and make recommendations in relation to strengthening provisions in relation to the use of a candidate's name and image without their permission.

During the 2024 Legislative Council election, I witnessed a number of instances where a candidate's name and image were shared in a way that spread defamatory mistruths with the intention of influencing the way people vote, despite S.196 of the *Electoral Act 2004* prescribing that the name and image of a candidate is not to be published without their permission.

ELECTORAL ACT 2004 - SECT 196

Candidate names not to be used without authority

(1) A person must not between the issue of the writ for an election and the close of poll at that election print, publish or distribute any advertisement, "how to vote" card, handbill, pamphlet, poster or notice which contains the name, photograph or a likeness of a candidate or intending candidate at that election without the written consent of the candidate.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 300 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or both.

Please refer to the examples below as evidence. The posts remained for the duration of the election, despite the TEC's requests that they be removed, and I understand no further action was taken against the publisher. I have retracted the publisher's name in the interests of respecting their privacy.

Publication of this type of material with no apparent recourse not only has the potential to influence the way people vote and damage the reputation of the candidate more broadly, but also has an emotional impact on family members and friends of the candidate, as well as the candidate themselves.

Further to this, it likely limits the candidate pool, in serving to discourage people from nominating for election for fear of personal attack and reputational damage that could be detrimental to their mental health, career and the wellbeing of their family and friends.

If anyone has information about the integrity of a candidate that voters ought to know it should be reported through appropriate channels where it can be investigated and reported on. It is not acceptable that voters are influenced by baseless claims that a candidate can only refute via a costly and lengthy defamation claim.

I urge the Committee to make recommendations that enforcement of S.196 be strengthened or new provisions established within the *Electoral Act 2004* to address these concerns.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Kind regards



7:04



Please be fooled...

Bec FAMILY TOWERS REVISITED
CAREERIST

Experienced.
at ruining
your city

Independent.
from listening
to you...

Yay me!

THREE CHEERS FOR ME

Labor

LIBERAL

Talk to the HAND

I am rude, dismissive and haven't proven myself in my current role, but I will put my career first and ask for your Stupidity...

I can ruin even more & further expand my 'rising blindness'.

bec@Proven Careerist .com.au | **CAREERIST** | www.becthomas.com.au



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Share

I never really wanted to be mayor

BY-ELECTION



Message

7:03



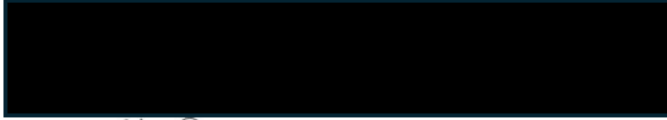
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About

Videos

Photos

Mentions



1 h · 🌐

Is this an 'advertisement' or 'how to vote card' is the real question?

The Tasmanian Electoral Commission TEC has received a complaint about me using Bec Thomas's Image and name, see pictured email and pics.

They have just now issued me with the same threats that Juice Media received.

Why are they so afraid of comedy - creative satirical content - that we all know is exempt from legislative requirements such as 'advertising' and 'how to vote' categories? The media cover these candidates during this time without issue because they are also exempt, they are not outright advertising or telling people how to vote - apparently.

Do one better leaders... instead of attempting to bully us corruptly so your mates-rates-game goes to plan (we keep electing you idiot mates), just don't give us a reason to make or value the content in the first place.

It wouldn't be funny if it wasn't true.

Democracy during elections means that the everyday citizens have the right to free speech, to make and consume creative satirical content, and in accordance with my human rights & for the benefit of our community...

I will continue to exercise it.

P.S. Just for clarification sake and so the sooks at the TEC don't get their knickers in a knot yet again, I've scrubbed out the satirically placed Vote 1 text, and replaced it with a



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Video



Friends



Marketplace



Notifications



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7:03



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About

Videos

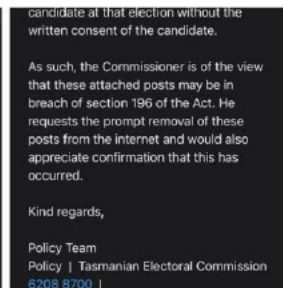
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Mentions

P.S. Just for clarification sake and so the sooks at the TEC don't get their knickers in a knot yet again, I've scrubbed out the satirically placed Vote 1 text, and replaced it with a basketball instead... you're welcome 🙄

P.P.S If the bored bureaucrats at the TEC try this on you, get in contact with me direct and we'll be sure to assist you with legal representation. ✌️

#politas
#tasmania
#hobart
#tassiestyle



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[Redacted]



Posts

About

Photos

Videos

Mentions

Stories 1 to 11



TASMANIA

Motion of NO CONFIDENCE

GLENORCHY CITY COUNCIL

Hobart

FAIL



Failed Mayor & Candidate for Elwick
BEC THOMAS

STOP!



Send message



Bec THOMAS

Candidate for Elwick

A narcissist wants the
authority of a king while
having the accountability
of a toddler.



Uses council role and resources (your money) to campaign,
while failing across most aspects of her current role.

GLENORCHY CITY COUNCIL

Arguable Failures Checklist

2018 - 2022 - 2023 Mayors

Kristie Johnston & Bec Thomas

1. Financials; GCC classed as one of the worst performing Urban Councils in TAS
2. Meetings held & key discussions take place outside of council
3. BMX Track & CBD Skate Park
4. KGV & YMCA - Council partnerships & negotiations
5. CBD Revitalisation Project & Bus Mall Temporary Relocation
6. Reduced planning and development delegations *therefore community input*
7. Tolosa St. Project (plus many more like it)
8. 'Varied scope' to limit the Regional Play Space development; Montrose & Goblins
9. Overall lack of user-friendly local play spaces & recreational facilities
10. Strategies for the approval & Implementation of programs/projects *i.e. FOGO*
11. Lack of transparency *i.e. closed meetings & limited/inaccurate detail released*
12. Transport *i.e. planning & overall condition of footpaths/roads*
13. Hobart City Deal *i.e. no forecasted or realised benefit to GCC*
14. GASP - Defunded in its last year when due to provide 'practical' outcomes/events
15. Pool Maintenance & facility access overall - GWM Pool was not marketed well etc
16. Lack of reasonable action (responsibility) for climate change & homelessness
17. Approach to rates, fees/charges, road safety & user-ability, youth & crime issues
18. History of bad debt & infringement write offs *i.e. poor legal & strategic oversight*
19. General Managers extended appointment for 5 years with only x2 ALD voting no
20. Poor asset, people & community support measures/management
21. Community consultation *i.e. minimal engagement & outcomes*
22. Committee overhauls ensured council can lead decisions without accountability
23. Handling of Wilkinson's point & large scale developments suit certain parties only
24. Endless bureaucracy *i.e. consultants & plans but limited outcomes*
25. Staff turnover, rates of bullying & complaints about the culture are high
26. High number of oversights & post-truth political propaganda fed to the community
27. Mayor used GCC % vote to support the removal of planning assess from councils



4:52



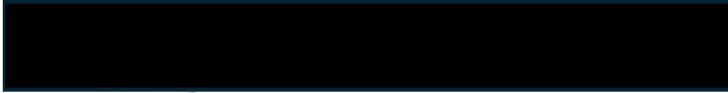
Posts

About

Photos

Videos

Mentions



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It's a two horse race... I know which one will do us justice!

One is the real workhorse, the other just owns race horses, attends events on our dime and bets on them 🙄

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👍👎 4

5 comments 1 share



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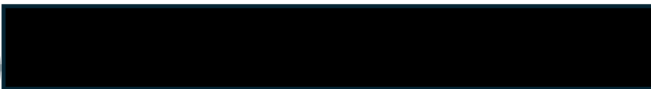
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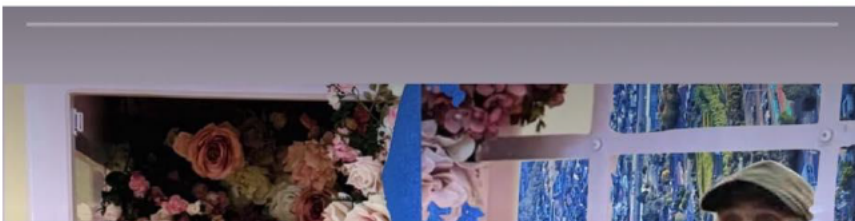
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