

Respondent Name**Thurston County Democrats****Complainant Name****Conner Edwards****Complaint Description****Conner Edwards**

reported via the portal
(Thu, 9 Apr 2026 at 10:05 PM)

On 3/13/26, Michael Snodgrass indicated that he was the new treasurer of the Thurston County Democrats. Despite a promise to update the committee's officer list, the committee failed to update the officer list within 10 days.

The officer list has not been updated since 12/20/2024.

Additionally, the committee has still not filed any reports for recent months. Reports covering December of 2025, January of 2026, February of 2026, March of of 2026 have not been filed.

The committee has an extensive compliance history. See link: <https://www.pdc.wa.gov/rules-enforcement/enforcement/enforcement-cases?respondent=thurston+county+democrats>

Notice to Respondent

I apologize to you for any inconvenience caused by this complaint. No treasurer/committee is perfect. The chance that you will actually be fined for the violations identified above is extremely small because the agency is averse to doing the work necessary to bring cases to hearings. Most likely this case – and any future cases against you – will simply be dismissed by staff.

This complaint is one of several thousand complaints that I have filed to highlight and ultimately fix the significant shortcomings associated with the agency responsible for administering our state's campaign finance laws.

What are these shortcomings?

Overcomplicated and outdated requirements that are difficult to understand and comply with. Failure to properly educate the regulated community about the tasks they must perform to remain in compliance with applicable requirements and avoid complaints. Failure of the agency to send regular reminders to filers about pending deadlines. A failure to proactively enforce applicable requirements which enables the complaint system to become weaponized. Non-intuitive, non-user friendly, and buggy reporting software. Failure to meaningfully enforce core requirements. Failure to follow the best operating practices of other neighboring campaign finance agencies. An agency leadership structure that largely disregards stakeholder input and is slow to identify and resolve major agency deficiencies.

I believe that the best way to motivate the agency to address these problems is by filing a large number of complaints so that the agency's problems become impossible to ignore.

Slowly (too slowly) this strategy is starting to yield concrete and beneficial changes. You can read about these changes here: <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/why-one-man-filed-800-campaign-finance-complaints-against-wa-candidates/>

If you believe that the agency could have done something different to help you proactively avoid the issues identified in this complaint, I hope that you will consider including it in your response. The agency, and the public, can benefit from your perspective and feedback.

If you are aware of a PDC violation but do not wish to file the complaint under your own name, please send the information to me at CG.Edwards53@gmail.com. If you would like to provide this information anonymously, please send me a postcard or letter to PO Box 12082, Seattle, WA 98102. Envelopes containing items other than paper will not be opened.

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world."
— **Mahatma Gandhi**

What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?

One of the primary purposes of the public disclosure law is to provide citizens of this state, and especially voters, with the means for becoming

informed about the financing of political campaigns. The public disclosure law was enacted through voter approval of Initiative 276 in 1972.

State law requires candidates and committees that register under full reporting to submit regular reports of financial activity. Those reports are filed on schedules outlined on the PDC's key reporting dates calendar.

List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found

See complaint & PDC website.

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

See complaint & PDC website.

Certification (Complainant)

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.