

Respondent Names
Washington Collectors Association PAC
Complainant Name
Conner Edwards
Complaint Description
Conner Edwards Thu, 30 Jul 2026 at 12:10 PM This respondent previously received a warning letter failing to timely file pre-election C4 reports: https://www.pdc.wa.gov/rules-enforcement/enforcement/enforcement-cases/176584 Once again, despite heavy participation in the '26 primary election (https://my.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110372500), the respondent has failed to file a 7-day pre-election C4. <u>Notice to Respondent</u> 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 Overcomplicated and outdated requirements that are difficult to understand and comply with.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-manfiled-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

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

Campaign finance laws are designed to ensure transparency, accountability, and fairness in the electoral process by providing the public with accurate and timely information about the sources and uses of campaign funds. When a filer violates these laws, voters, journalists, and oversight agencies may be unable to fully evaluate who is financing a campaign, how money is being spent, or whether legal contribution and disclosure requirements have been followed. These violations reduce public confidence in the integrity of elections by creating uncertainty about whether campaigns are complying with the same rules and whether political influence is being disclosed as required. Even when a violation does not change the outcome of an election, it undermines the transparency that campaign finance laws are intended to provide and weakens the public's ability to hold candidates and committees accountable.

The body of the complaint also includes, for each category of violations, the specific impact to the public.

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

The evidence for this complaint is available on the PDC's website. The links to specific reports used as evidence of violations are contained within each section of the complaint. The PDC's website is available here: <http://pdc.wa.gov>

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

I am a witness and my contact information is as follows. E-mail: CG.Edwards53@gmail.com, phone number: 425-533-1677, mailing address: PO Box 12082, Seattle, WA 98102. The respondent committee's contact information is also listed below.

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.

