

Respondent Name
Gary Edwards
Complainant Name
Joe Hyer
Complaint Description
<p>Joe Hyer reported via the portal (<i>Fri, 18 Sep 2020 at 3:51 PM</i>)</p> <p>The Candidate Committee 'Vote Gary Edwards' and candidate Gary Edwards have violated disclosure requirements in recent electioneering communications. In a professionally produced video available to the general public on YouTube, there is no Sponsor identification, as required by 42.17A.320. I do not have the committee name, or address of record, or any way to contact them. Producing this video cost significant money - a sponsor ID should be on it.</p> <p>Second - the video has a specific section, from :10 to :15, that violates 42.17A.555. Elected officials cannot use resources of their office in electioneering. It specifically calls out 'stationary, postage, machines and equipment' though is not limited to those items. Our concern lies in the use of the official Name Placard, designating Mr. Edwards as commissioner. Like an official county name tag, it IS a form of stationary, paid for by the citizens, and a 'trapping of office'. Immediately following in the video is Mr. Edwards at the desk, with the placard in front of him. If that footage was from a Commissioners meeting already broadcast, it's fine. But using Public resources - the name placard and desk, for electioneering purposes is a clear violation of this statute.</p> <p>Third - and going back to 42.17A.320, this is a Partisan office. Candidates are required to put the SAME information on electioneering communications as will be listed on the ballot. Mr. Edwards indicates 'no party preference' on the ballot. In this video, however, he identifies as an 'Independent' - which IS an official minor party in Washington State (website screenshot attached). In addition, the Thurston County Republican Party currently lists Mr. Edwards as the Republican Candidate for this office (screenshot attached). While Mr. Edwards cannot control what a bona fide party states - he is in control of his own electioneering communications, and therefore should be required to put 'no party preference' on all electioneering communications, rather than claim to be a member of the 'independent' party. Two candidates in this primary, in the other commissioner district, DID affiliate with the Independent Party. Mr. Edwards did not. To that end, to now claim he is a member of the Independent Party, while the ballot says no party preference is a violation of the RCW.</p> <p>You tube video.jpg 1.74 MB</p> <p>You Tube Search - Edwards.jpg 3.01 MB</p> <p>Thurston County Republicans Candidate List.jpg 2.74 MB</p>

Official PLacard in video.jpg
1.67 MB

Independent Party Website.jpg
1.82 MB

Behind Desk posed.jpg
1.8 MB

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

Not listing a sponsor ID in an election cycle that has already had independent expenditures is misleading to voters. Using the trappings of office for electioneering eventually leads to doing a nomination acceptance speech from the White House. Confusing voters on party preference is just being misleading, which is not good with so much misinformation already in the world.

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

You tube search page screen shot, official placard and desk in video, Independent Party website, and Thurston Republican candidate list screenshot.

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

Any member of the public may now have already seen this - though after a full week, you tube was registering zero views.

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.

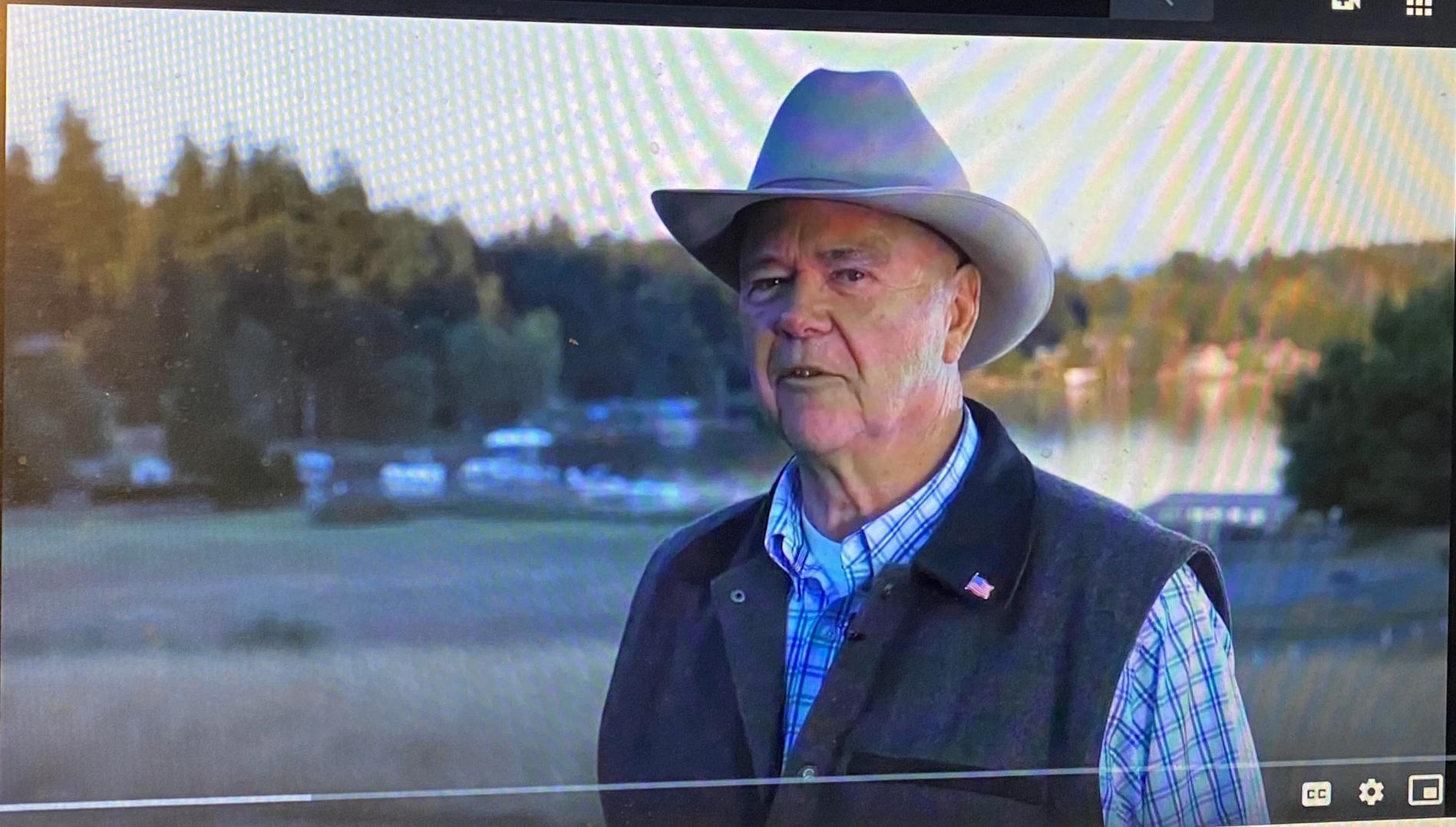
SyncMaster 220wm

Heritage x | JOE - Go x | Google x | Olympia x | (1) Face x | Inbox - x | Gmail: S x | Gary Edv x

youtube.com/watch?v=mZ7gW6ruGLA

YouTube

Gary Edwards Thurston County Accomplishments



Play (k)

0:01 / 1:55

Gary Edwards for Thurston County Commissioner 2020

5 views · Sep 10, 2020

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Records: Gary Thurston - 1-Search Name. 2-Select State.

Search for Gary thurston's Arrests, Traffic Tickets, Addresses & More!

Ad www.truthfinder.com/records

VISIT SITE



Gary Edwards for Thurston County Commissioner 2020

Gary Edwards • No views • 1 week ago

Now more than ever, we need less partisan politics and more common sense to address the complex issues facing our community ...



Gary Edwards

2 videos

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Thurston County Commissioner Gary Edwards on Daybreak -

08/09/17

iFiberone News Radio • 142 views • 3 years ago

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22nd LD Rep, Dusty Pierpoint.

35th LD Rep, Dan Griffey.

35th LD Rep, Drew MacEwen.

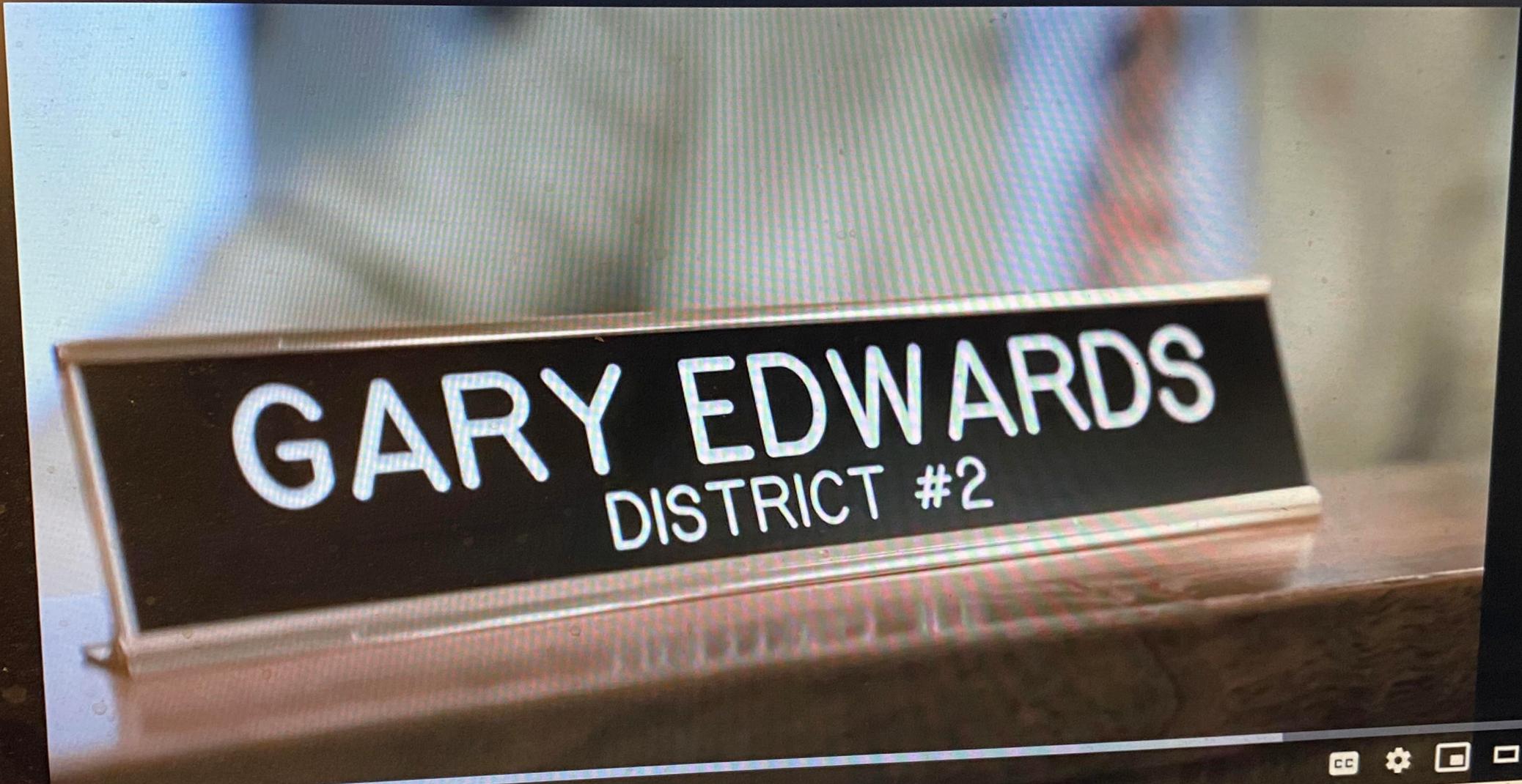
TC Commissioner #2, Gary Edwards.

To find out more information on the TC election results, please go here

<https://results.vote.wa.gov/results/20200804/thurston/>

The mission of the Thurston County Republican Party is to support candidates to public office, to attract voters and volunteers to the United States and Washington State, to work for the passage of dignity, freedom and prosperity for all.

SyncMaster 220wm



Play (k)

0:13 / 1:55

Volume icon, Play/Pause icon, and a red progress bar.

CC, Settings, Full Screen, and other video control icons.

Gary Edwards for Thurston County Commissioner 2020

5 views · Sep 10, 2020

Like (0), Dislike (0), SHARE, SAVE, and menu icons.

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Anonymous Employee Tells Thurston County CoWorkers...

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SAMSUNG



The Independent Party of WASHINGTON

The Party in the Middle!

INDEPENDENT STATE COMMITTEE
7704 Terry Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76180 USA

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The Independent Party of Washington is an Affiliate Party of The Independent Party of the United States of America

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Takes you to the Official US Government Online Voter Registration Website!

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youtube.com/watch?v=mZ7gW6ruGLA

YouTube

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Gary Edwards for Thurston County Commissioner 2020

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