



**State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908

(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

**Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdcca.wa.gov](http://www.pdcca.wa.gov)**

June 27, 2024

Delivered electronically to Joe Cortez

Subject: Complaint filed by Conner Edwards, PDC Case 151279

Joe Cortez,

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Conner Edwards concerning a complaint he filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) against your 2023 Campaign for School Director in Wenatchee School District 246.

In accordance with WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), PDC staff is issuing you a formal written warning concerning the requirement to timely and accurately file Campaign Summary Receipts and Expenditures (C-4) reports. In the future, staff expects you to file timely and accurately as required. The Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

PDC staff has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact PDC staff at 1-360-753-1111, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

*Electronically Signed by Peter Frey Lavallee*

Peter Frey Lavallee

PDC Executive Director



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June 27, 2024

Delivered electronically to Conner Edwards

Subject: Complaint regarding Joe Cortez, PDC Complaint 151279

Conner Edwards:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed against Joe Cortez, a 2023 candidate seeking election to the office of School Director in Wenatchee School District 246.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements for a 2023 candidate under the Full Reporting option; the applicable Summary Full Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reports (C-4 reports) filed by the Respondent; and other relevant information, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations. Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- Joe Cortez filed a Candidate Registration declaring their candidacy for School Director in Wenatchee School District 246, selecting the Full Reporting Option.
- For the 2023 election cycle, the 21-Day Pre-General Election C-4 report was required to be filed no later than October 17, 2023, the 7-Day Pre-General Election C-4 was required to be filed no later than October 31, 2023, and the Post General Election C-4 was required to be filed no later than December 11, 2023.
- The Respondent filed expenditure reports for those periods, but the reports were submitted late.

- The reports disclosed minimal contribution and expenditure activity that fell below the \$7,000 limit for a candidate choosing the Mini Reporting Option on their candidate registration. Mini reporting, had it been selected, would have relieved the candidate of filing expenditure reports.

In accordance with WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), PDC staff issued a formal written warning to Joe Cortez concerning the requirement to timely and accurately file Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure (C-4) reports. In the future, should they declare candidacy again, staff expects Joe Cortez to file timely and accurately as required. The Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws and rules.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1), and WAC 390-37-060(1)(a).

If you have questions, you may contact PDC staff at 1-360-753-1111, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

*Electronically Signed by Peter Frey Lavallee*

Peter Frey Lavallee

PDC Executive Director



cc: Joe Cortez