

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: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

August 19, 2024

 $Delivered \ electronically \ to \ Sam \ Andrews \ at \ \underline{slandrews9@yahoo.com} \ and \ \underline{westvalleyvotes@gmail.com}$

Subject: Complaint filed by Conner Edwards, PDC Case 154715

Dear Sam Andrews:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Conner Edwards concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Mr. Edwards, the PDC has dismissed this matter following RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff finds that, in this instance, failure to accurately and timely report contributions on the Cash Receipts Monetary Contributions (C-3) report and the Campaign Summary Receipts and Expenditures (C-4) report does not amount to a finding of a violation that calls for further investigation.

Specifically for December 29, 2023, and January 31, 2024, the committee incorrectly attributed Small Contributions collected as an Itemized Contribution from "WV Payroll Dep" on C-3 reports #110195666, amended by 110232223, and #110231172, amended by 110231173, and #110231174, amended by 110231175. The associated C-4 for these contributions were also amended to reflect the corrections. The West Valley Votes made minor or ministerial errors on required reports, which did not materially affect the public interest. Upon notification of these errors you, acting as the committee treasurer, promptly amended the reports, making the necessary corrections as requested by staff.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is necessary and hereby resolves this matter as a technical correction per RCW 42.17A.755(1) & (2) and WAC 390-37-060.

If you have questions, you may contact Tanya Mercier by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Electronically signed</u> Tanya Mercier Compliance Officer Endorsed by,

/s/ Electronically signed Peter Frey Lavallee Executive Director



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August 19, 2024

Delivered electronically to Conner Edwards at <u>cg.edwards53@gmail.com</u>

Subject: Complaint against West Valley Votes, PDC Case 154715

Dear Conner Edwards:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review and assessment of the complaint you filed on May 28, 2024. The complaint alleged that West Valley Votes, a political committee supporting local propositions for the West Valley School District 363, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 by failing to timely and accurately report contributions and expenditures.

PDC staff reviewed the allegation(s); the applicable statutes and rules and reporting requirements; the response(s) provided by the Respondent; the applicable PDC 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:

- West Valley Votes filed a Committee Registration (C-1pc) for the 2024 Special Election campaign on December 4, 2023, under the Full Reporting option.
- Specifically for December 29, 2023, and January 31, 2024, the committee incorrectly attributed Small Contributions collected as an Itemized Contribution from "WV Payroll Dep" on C-3 reports #110195666, amended by 110232223, and #110231172, amended by 110231173, and #110231174, amended by 110231175. The associated C-4 for these contributions were also amended to reflect the corrections.
- The total dollar amount of the contributions was \$307 and did not change when the reports were amended.
- The Respondent has no prior warnings or violations.

Based on our findings staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to accurately and timely report contributions and expenditures in the 2024 Special Election campaign does not amount to a finding of a violation that calls for further investigation. We also find that the amendments, specific to this complaint, are insufficient evidence of late reporting.

West Valley Votes made minor or ministerial errors on required reports, which did not materially affect the public interest. Upon notification of these errors the committee treasurer, Sam Andrews, promptly worked with staff and amended their reports, making the necessary corrections as requested by staff.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is necessary and hereby resolves this matter as a technical correction per RCW 42.17A.755(1) & (2) and WAC 390-37-060.

If you have questions, you may contact Tanya Mercier by e-mail at <u>pdc@pdc.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

<u>/s/ Electronically signed</u> Tanya Mercier Compliance Officer <u>/s/ Electronically signed</u> Peter Frey Lavallee Executive Director

cc: Sam Andrews and West Valley Votes