

Respondent Names
Southwest Washington Firefighters PAC
Complainant Name
Conner Edwards
Complaint Description
<p>Conner Edwards</p> <p>Sat, 29 Jun 2024 at 6:27 PM</p> <p>Description of Complaint</p> <p>1) Based on the information disclosed on these two C3 reports (https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110218800) , and (https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110218827), this PAC should have filed a C4 covering February no later than May 10, 2024. However, no such C4 report was filed. See attached.</p> <p>2) Here is the last C4 this PAC filed for 2020: https://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?repno=110009927 (Note: it was also filed over a month late). It discloses a COH balance of \$2168. Here is the first C4 for this PAC in 2021: https://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?repno=110043951 It discloses a starting cash COH balance of \$0.00. This indicates that something has not been reported appropriately.</p> <p>3) I would note that this PAC has reported having \$0 in expenditures for 2020, 2022, 2023, and 2024. This is extremely unusual and potentially inaccurate. I would encourage the PDC to ask the respondent about this to determine if the reports that have been filed are really accurate.</p> <p>By any objective measure, it is unacceptable that the PDC would take no action to help bring this filer into compliance now that the statute of limitations is rapidly approaching. The PDC has an obligation to provide transparency to the voters by enforcing filing requirements. The agency's failure to actively monitor the filings of committees and enforce filing requirements damages both the public and the committees themselves.</p> <p>I have tried many different times to get the PDC to take action on this type of issue with no tangible results whatsoever. At one point, I believe the agency discussed the possibility of internally flagging non-filers in the PDC's system and proactively reaching out to them to bring them into compliance, but it appears this is not happening.</p>

Southwest Washington Firefighters PAC (SWF PAC) - 2024

Committee Information

Registration

August 12, 2020

Treasurer

Tony Lothspeich
2807 NW Fruit Valley Rd
Vancouver, WA, 98660
3606004542

Political Committee Type

Other

Jurisdiction

None reported.

Committee Address

2807 NW Fruit Valley Rd
Vancouver, WA 98660

Phone

3607840509

Email

brandonf@iafflocal1805.org

Financial Information

Campaign Starting Balance

\$28,887.79

Contributions Amount

\$2,673.00

Loans Amount

\$0.00

Total Receipts

\$31,560.79

Expenditures

\$0.00

Pledges

\$0.00

Debts

\$0.00

Made to committee for 2024

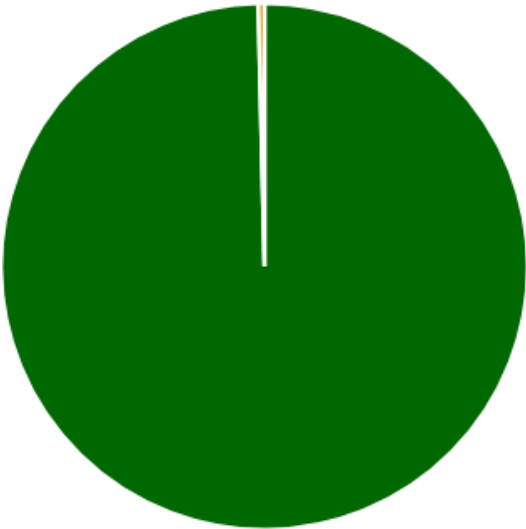
Contributions

See who has contributed cash and in-kind (non-monetary) contributions to the committee.

Contributions made to committee for 2024

Individual
\$2,663.00

Other
\$10.00



Made by committee for 2024

Expenditures

See how the committee has spent money, and what kind of goods and services it received as in-kind contributions.

No expenditures reported.

Made to committee

Loans

See loans received, forgiven or paid by the campaign.

\$0.00

Held by committee

Debts

See the campaign's debt reporting history.

\$0.00

Campaign Finance Reports

See the reports filed by the committee. Reports with a strikethrough were amended by another report.

Show

25

 entries

[Download 4 rows as CSV.](#)

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
01/01/2024 - 01/31/2024	110202041	02/16/2024	View Report	C4	2024
01/15/2024 - 01/15/2024	110202039	02/16/2024	View Report	C3	2024
02/15/2024 - 02/15/2024	110218800	06/04/2024	View Report	C3	2024
04/12/2024 - 04/12/2024	110218827	06/04/2024	View Report	C3	2024

Showing 1 to 4 of 4 entries

Glossary

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Having exhausted all of my other options to pursue reform, the only remaining option available to me to compel the agency to take action here is to file PDC complaints against these noncompliant filers in an effort to force the agency to take action.

By highlighting the agency's failure to meaningfully enforce current reporting deadlines, my hope is that the agency will look to improve its own enforcement procedures and help committees and treasurers comply with the law.

Notice to Respondents:

I apologize to you for any inconvenience caused by this complaint; it is not my intention.

No campaign treasurer or campaign/committee is perfect. Trying to comply with the myriad of requirements and deadlines the PDC enforces can be extremely difficult, even for those who have been doing this for years. The agency could adopt any number of strategies to help filers "get it right" when it comes to deadlines and other requirements. Some of these strategies might include: a) automated electronic filing reminders to a filer when they have missed a deadline, b) mandatory attendance in a PDC training course before a person is allowed to serve as treasurer, c) giving filers 48 hours to file 21- & 7-day pre-election reports as opposed to the 24 hours candidates currently get, and d) improvements to the ORCA online campaign finance filing system to improve useability.

In my opinion, the agency has failed to provide many filers with the knowledge and tools that they need to file reports on time and be compliant.

If you are confused by the filing requirements that the agency enforces or are experiencing technical difficulties and/or usability issues with the ORCA system, please be sure to indicate this in your response to the PDC: your comments will provide valuable feedback for the agency.

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

Because this committee has not timely filed one or more required reports, members of the public are unable to view up to date financial information, significantly reducing transparency available to voters.

The PDC has an obligation to provide transparency to the voters by enforcing filing requirements. The agency's failure to actively monitor the filings of committees and enforce filing requirements damages both the public and the candidates themselves.

It is imperative that PDC staff reach out to this committee immediately to bring them into compliance.

List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found
PDC Website.
List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them
See respondent contact info on 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.