

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

October 21, 2024

Delivered electronically to stefaniejesperson@yahoo.com

Subject: Complaint filed by Conner Edwards, PDC Case 156307

Dear Friends of Selah:

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 in accordance with <u>RCW 42.17A.755(1)</u> and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

However, pursuant to <u>WAC 390-37-060(1)(d)</u>, this serves as a formal written warning concerning your failure to comply with the filing requirements noted in the enclosed letter sent to Mr. Edwards. You have filed or amended reports for the period of April 1, 2023, to August 31, 2024, and going forward staff expects you to file all required reports of contributions and expenditures accurately and timely. The Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter per RCW 42.17A.755(1).

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

Sincerely,

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

<u>/s/ Electronically signed</u> Peter Frey Lavallee Executive Director



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October 21, 2024

Delivered electronically to cg.edwards53@gmail.com

Subject: Complaint regarding Friends of Selah, PDC Case 156307

Dear Conner Edwards:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on June 29, 2024. The complaint alleged that Friends of Selah, a committee registered for the 2026 February election, may have violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failure to timely and accurately file *Cash Receipts Monetary Contributions* reports (C-3 reports) and *Campaign Summary Receipts & Expenditures* reports (C-4 reports), disclosing contributions and expenditures undertaken by the campaign.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations and evidence you submitted; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response(s) provided by Friends of Selah (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.

Applicable Laws & Rules

- Per RCW 42.17A.235 and .240, under the Full Reporting option, a committee is required to disclose contribution and expenditure information by submitting Receipts and Expenditure Summary (C-4) reports and Cash Receipts, Monetary Contributions (C-3) reports to the PDC. The Committee's due dates for the C-3 and C-4 reports are determined by its activity and participation in the election cycle.
 - RCW 42.17A.235(3)(a) indicates a C-4 report is due each month "if the committee has received a contribution or made an expenditure in the preceding calendar month and either the total contributions received, or the total expenditures made since the last such report exceed \$750."

Background & Findings

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- The Respondent filed a Political Committee Registration (C-1pc) on March 02, 2023, for the Full Reportion Option. The campaign is for the 2026 February election supporting a levy, bond, or advisory vote.
- Upon being notified about the complaint, the committee Treasurer worked with PDC staff to file and amend many reports. All total, there were eleven C-3 reports filed late before the complaint was filed, five C-3 reports filed late after the complaint was filed, and two C-4 reports filed late after the complaint was filed.
- The Respondent has addressed reporting issues for C-3 and C-4 reports for the period of April 1, 2023, to August 31, 2024. As of the August reporting, the campaign showed a starting balance of \$3,436.71, contributions totaling \$1,951, and expenditures of \$54.
- The Respondent does not have previous warnings or violations of similar PDC requirements.

Summary and Resolution

Based on this information, the PDC finds that this matter does not warrant further investigation and has dismissed this matter in accordance with $\frac{\text{RCW 42.17A.755(1)}}{\text{RCW 42.17A.755(1)}}$.

Pursuant to <u>WAC 390-37-060(1)(d)</u>, however, Friends of Selah will receive a formal written warning concerning the committee's failure to timely and accurately disclose all contribution and expenditure activity. The formal written warning will include staff's expectation that Friends of Selah timely files all future required reports of contributions and expenditures. The Commission will consider the formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

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

Sincerely,

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

<u>/s/ Electronically signed</u> Peter Frey Lavallee Executive Director

cc: Friends of Selah