

Respondent Name

UNITE HERE Local 8 Political Action Committee (UNITE HERE Local 8 PAC)

Complainant Name

Conner Edwards

Complaint Description

[Conner Edwards](#) reported via the portal
(Fri, 27 Sep 2024 at 3:42 PM)

Description of Complaint

This respondent previously had to pay an SOU for \$300 in 2021 because of a complaint filed by Tallman Trask of all people, see link: <https://pdc-case-tracking.s3.us-gov-west-1.amazonaws.com/3144/Statement%20of%20Understanding%20-%205345%20-%20Unite%20Here%20Local%208%20PAC.pdf>

1) In 2023, this respondent filed 5 reports total. Of those, only one was filed on time (110180052). See attached list of reports. This committee made contributions in 2023 to candidates appearing on both the primary and general election ballots. See link: <https://pdc.wa.gov/political-disclosure-reporting-data/browse-search-data/committees/co-2023-19977/expenditures> Despite this, the respondent failed to timely file the required 21, 7 day, and post-election C4 reports for both the primary and general elections. (Although I guess in practical terms they basically did file the 7-day pre-general C4 on time to their credit). The post general 2023 C4 has still not been filed. Neither has the December 2023 C4 report.

1) The committee failed to identify the candidates supported by independent expenditures made in 2023 for these expenditures, see link: <https://pdc.wa.gov/political-disclosure-reporting-data/browse-search-data/committees/co-2023-19977/expenditures?description=independent> . See WAC 390-16-037(1).

2) This committee made contributions in 2024 to a candidate appearing on both the primary and general election ballots. See link: <https://pdc.wa.gov/political-disclosure-reporting-data/browse-search-data/committees/co-2024-19977/expenditures>

Despite this, the respondent failed to timely file the required 21, 7 day, and post-election C4 reports until long after the applicable deadlines, see link: <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110247300> .

3) Additionally, this C3 for a \$3750 deposit was made ~50 days late, see link: <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110247299> .

Notice to Respondent

I apologize to you for any inconvenience caused by this complaint.

This complaint is one of hundreds that I have filed to highlight and ultimately fix the significant shortcomings associated with the agency responsible for administering our state's campaign finance laws.

What are these shortcomings?

Overcomplicated and outdated requirements that are difficult to understand and comply with. Failure to properly educate filers about the tasks they must perform to remain in compliance with applicable requirements and avoid complaints. Failure of the agency to send regular reminders to filers about pending deadlines. A failure to proactively enforce applicable requirements which enables the complaint system to become weaponized. Non-intuitive, non-user friendly, and buggy reporting software. Failure to meaningfully enforce core requirements. Failure to follow the best operating practices of other neighboring campaign finance agencies. An agency leadership structure that largely disregards stakeholder input and is slow to identify and resolve major agency deficiencies.

I believe that the best way to motivate the agency to address these problems is by filing a large number of complaints so that the agency's problems become impossible to ignore.

Slowly (too slowly) this strategy is starting to yield concrete and beneficial changes. You can read about these changes here: <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/why-one-man-filed-800-campaign-finance-complaints-against-wa-candidates/>

If you believe that the agency could have done something different to help you proactively avoid the issues identified in this complaint, I hope that you will consider including it in your response. The agency, and the public, can benefit from your perspective and feedback.

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”

— **Mahatma Gandhi**

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

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.

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.

UNITE HERE Local 8 Political Action Committee (UNITE HERE Local 8 PAC) - 2024

Committee Information

Registration

November 28, 2010

Treasurer

Cindy Richardson
5030 1st Ave S, Suite 201
Seattle, Washington, 98134
2067282326

Political Committee Type

Continuing Committee (Union)

Jurisdiction

None reported.

Committee Address

5030 1st Ave S, Suite 201
Seattle, Washington 98134

Phone

2067282326

Email

info@8.unitehere.org

Financial Information

Campaign Starting Balance

\$36.97

Contributions Amount

\$3,750.00

Loans Amount

\$0.00

Total Receipts

\$3,786.97

Expenditures

\$3,750.00

Pledges

\$0.00

Debts

\$0.00

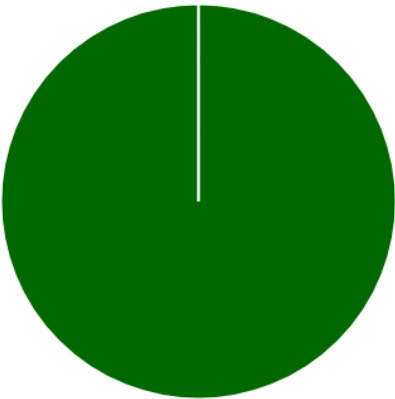
Made to committee for 2024

Contributions

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

Contributions made to committee for 2024

Union
\$3,750.00



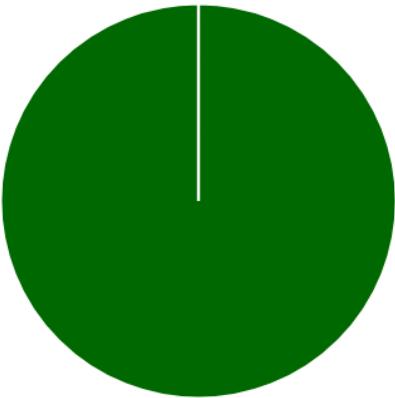
Made by committee for 2024

Expenditures

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

Expenditures made by committee for 2024

Monetary contributions to PAC...
\$3,750.00



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 entries

Download 2 rows as CSV.

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
01/01/2024 - 09/30/2024	110247300	09/24/2024	View Report	C4	2024
08/01/2024 - 08/01/2024	110247299	09/24/2024	View Report	C3	2024

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Committee Address

5030 1st Ave S, Suite 201
Seattle, Washington 98134

Phone

2067282326

Email

info@8.unitehere.org

Financial Information

Campaign Starting Balance

\$0.00

Contributions Amount

\$102,628.81

Loans Amount

\$0.00

Total Receipts

\$102,628.81

Expenditures

\$102,591.84

Pledges

\$0.00

Debts

\$0.00

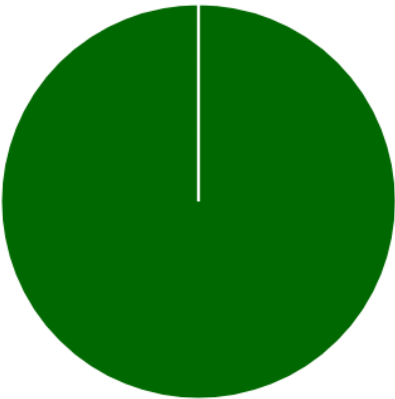
Made to committee for 2023

Contributions

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

Contributions made to committee for 2023

Union
\$102,628.81



Made by committee for 2023

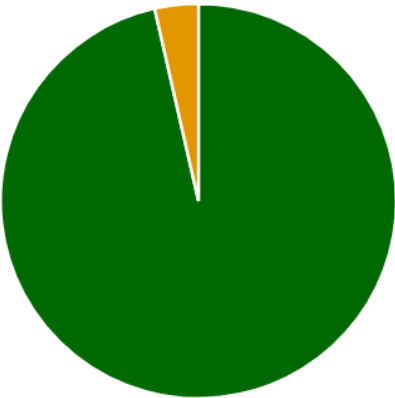
Expenditures

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

Expenditures made by committee for 2023

Independent Expenditure
\$98,941.84

Monetary contributions to PAC...
\$3,650.00



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 entries

[Download 5 rows as CSV.](#)

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
01/01/2023 - 01/01/2023	110183886	10/27/2023	View Report	C3	2023
01/01/2023 - 10/31/2023	110183889	10/27/2023	View Report	C4	2023
02/22/2023 - 02/22/2023	110180057	10/16/2023	View Report	C3	2023
08/01/2023 - 08/01/2023	110180055	10/16/2023	View Report	C3	2023
10/11/2023 - 10/11/2023	110180052	10/16/2023	View Report	C3	2023

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