

Respondent Name
Active in Democracy Tacoma Firefighters PAC
Complainant Name
Glen Moragn
Complaint Description
<p>Glen Morgan reported via the portal (Thu, 10 Oct 2024 at 3:14 PM)</p> <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>It has recently come to my attention that the Active in Democracy Tacoma Firefighters Union PAC, has violated Washington State's campaign finance laws (RCW 42.17A), on a regular basis this year and in previous years. The details of these violations are as follows:</p> <p>1) Failure to report legally required details on expenditure reports (Violation of RCW 42.17A.235, RCW 42.17A.240, WAC 390-16-037)</p> <p>On a frequent basis, this well-funded Dark Money PAC has violated Washington State's campaign finance laws by consistently refusing to provide the legally required details on their expenditure reports, which is a flagrant violation of Washington State's campaign finance laws despite the clear requirements explained so well at WAC 390-16-037, example B. Here are some of the specific examples for PDC staff reference:</p> <p>1) On July 18, 2024 this PAC reports that they spent \$2,898.50 on "political signs" with vendor "Xpress Printing" (See PDC C4 Report # 110235865, attached for staff reference). However, this dark money PAC failed to report the required number of signs they purchased as explicitly and clearly required in WAC 390-16-037, example B. Plus, these campaigns were presumably printed to assist with their endorsed political candidates, and this PAC has illegally failed to identify how many of these signs were contributed to which candidates. This is another specific violation, and the PDC will need to confirm which candidate's political campaigns benefitted from this Dark Money In-Kind contribution.</p> <p>2) On August 8, 2023, this secretive PAC claims they spent \$1,622.50 again for "sign printing" with vendor "Xpress Printing" (See PDC C4 Report # 110170313, attached for staff reference). Again, they concealed the legally required details as demanded under WAC 390-16-037, example B. Once again, they also failed to specifically break down the specific candidates these signs were used to benefit.</p> <p>"Active in Democracy" has been actively violating the law for years now</p> <p>There is no practical way this organization can pretend that they don't know how to follow Washington State's campaign finance laws or pretend that they "didn't know." This same treasurer listed on this PACs reports, Matthew Frank, has been involved with paying a \$300 fine imposed by the PDC a few years ago (see attached SOU from PDC Case #43107, attached for staff reference), which clearly demonstrates his willingness to violate the law when they want to do so.</p> <p>Unfortunately, I'm afraid I will find more violations with this group in the future due to this historic pattern of behavior, but this is enough for PDC staff to initiate their investigation into this organization. You never know what else will be found with shady Dark Money PAC operators like this.</p> <p>Best Regards,</p> <p>Glen Morgan</p>
What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?
The public has a right to know the legally required details on expenditures made by this secretive dark money PAC and also which candidates are benefitting from these expenditures - all of which has been concealed from the public.
List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found
Attached as exhibits
List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

The treasurer for sure with his historic violations in mind, but anyone else involved in this effort to break the law

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.



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

Public Disclosure Commission Statement of Understanding

Active in Democracy: PDC Case 43107

I MATTHEW FRANK, hereby acknowledge that I:
(Printed Name of Respondent)

Failed to timely file Campaign Summary Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports) disclosing contribution and expenditure, in violation of RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 as follows:

2017 21-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report:

- On Aug. 1, 2017, Active in Democracy filed the 21-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report disclosing \$2,555 in monetary contributions received from members monthly withholdings, and \$3,000 in expenditures made for five contributions to five 2017 candidates for public office. The 21-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report was required to have been filed on July 11, 2017, covering the period June 1 through July 10, 2017. The C-4 report was filed 21 days late, the date the August 1, 2017 primary election was held.

2016 21 and 7-day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report:

- On July 18, 2016, Active in Democracy filed the 21-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report disclosing \$2,180 in monetary contributions received from members monthly withholdings, and \$5,104 in expenditures that included two contributions of \$1,000 each to the Jay Inslee for Washington Campaign and Friends of Christine Kilduff, and \$3,000 in expenditures for signs. The 21-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report was required to have been filed on July 12, 2016, covering the period June 1 through July 11, 2016, and was filed seven days late.
- On August 10, 2016, Active in Democracy filed the 7-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report disclosing \$2,132 in monetary contributions received from members monthly withholdings, and \$1,000 for one expenditure made for a contribution to the Committee to Elect Mark Leavitt.

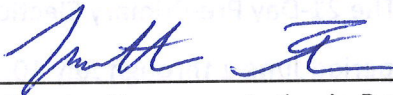
The 7-Day Pre-Primary Election C-4 report was required to have been filed on July 26, 2016, covering the period July 12 through 25, 2016. The C-4 report was filed 15 days late, and eight days after the August 2, 2016 primary election was held.

Active in Democracy would like to avoid the time and expense resulting from a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) being scheduled by Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff.

Therefore, in lieu of PDC staff scheduling a Brief Enforcement Hearing, I am completing this Statement of Understanding, and enclosing a check or money order in the amount of \$300 as a penalty payment in this matter.

The \$300 penalty being assessed is for the three-acknowledged violations of RCW 42.17A.235 by Active in Democracy for failing to timely file C--4 reports and included \$150 for the 2016 violations and \$150 for the 2017 violation, in accordance with the Brief Adjudicative Proceeding Penalty Schedule (WAC 390-37-143).

Active in Democracy understands that by completing this Statement of Understanding, they are acknowledging violations of RCW 42.17A set forth above and waiving their right to a hearing in this matter.


Matt Frank – Treasurer Active in Democracy

1/18/19
Date Signed

Please make your check or money order payable to the **“Washington State Treasurer”** and be sure to include the PDC Case number in the memorandum field, and mail or deliver this Statement of Understanding along with your payment/check to the PDC at the following address:

Public Disclosure Commission
711 Capitol Way, Room 206
PO Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504-0908



711 Capitol Way Suite 206
PO Box 40908 Olympia, WA 98504-0908
(360) 753-1111
Toll Free 1-800-601-2828

**SUMMARY, FULL REPORT RECEIPTS
AND EXPENDITURES**

C4

ACTIVE IN DEMOCRACY TACOMA FIREFIGHTERS UNION

1109 S 50TH ST
TACOMA, WA 98408

Coverage: 07/25/2023 to 08/31/2023

Final report: No

Report number: 110170313

Reporting year: 2023

Date submitted: 09/06/2023

RECEIPTS

1. Previous total cash and in-kind contributions (last C4 line 8).		\$113,455.16
2. Cash received (Schedule A line 1).	\$3,661.13	
3. In-kind contributions received (Line 1 schedule B).	\$105.39	
4. Total cash and in-kind contributions received this period (Lines 2 + 3).		\$3,766.52
5. Loan principal repayments made (Line 2 schedule L).	\$0.00	
6. Corrections (Lines 1 or 3 schedule C).	(\$100.00)	
7. Net adjustments this period (Lines 5 + 6).		(\$100.00)
8. Total cash and in-kind contributions during campaign (Lines 1 + 4 + 7).		\$117,121.68
9. Total pledge payments due (Line 2 schedule B).	\$0.00	

EXPENDITURES

10. Previous total cash and in-kind expenditures (Last C-4 line 17).		\$13,917.06
11. Cash expenditures (Line 3 schedule A).	\$2,622.50	
12. In-kind expenditures (Line 1 schedule B).	\$105.39	
13. Total cash and in-kind expenditures made this period (Lines 11 + 12).		\$2,727.89
14. Loan principal repayment made (Line 2 schedule L).	\$0.00	
15. Corrections (Lines 2 + 3 schedule C).	(\$100.00)	
16. Net adjustments this period (Lines 14 + 15).		(\$100.00)
17. Total cash and in-kind expenditures during campaign (Lines 10 + 13 + 16).		\$16,544.95

CASH SUMMARY

18. Cash on hand (Lines 8 - 17)		\$100,576.73
Line 18 should equal your bank account balance(s) plus your petty cash balance.		
19. Liabilities: (Sum of loans and debts owed)		\$0.00
20. Balance (Lines 18 - 19)		\$100,576.73

I certify this report is true and complete to the best of my knowledge

Treasurer's name and date

MATT FRANK - 09/06/2023

Schedule A: Cash Receipts and Expenditure Detail

1. CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER CASH RECEIPTS REPORTED ON THE C3:

Deposit date	Amount	Deposit date	Amount	Deposit date	Amount
08/21/2023	\$3,661.13				

2. TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS (LINE 2 OF C4): \$3,661.13

3. EXPENDITURES (CASH AND CREDIT TRANSACTION DETAIL):

Date paid	Vendor or recipient (Name and address)	Purpose of expense and/or description	Credit/Debt	Cash
N/A	Expenses	Non-itemized expenditures		\$0.00
08/08/2023	XPress Sign Co 8016 S Durango St SW , Lakewood, WA 98499	Other: Sign printing		\$1,622.50
08/10/2023	Vote for Myrah 809 S 14th St , Tacoma, WA 98405	Other: Monetary contribution to PAC		\$500.00
08/10/2023	Brett L. Wittner 1210 Contra Costa Ave , Fircrest, WA 98466	Other: Monetary contribution to PAC		\$500.00
			\$0.00	\$2,622.50

4. TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$2,622.50

Schedule B: In-kind Contributions, Pledges, Orders, Debts and Obligations

1. IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED:

Date Received	Contributor	Employer/Occupation	Description	Amount
07/25/2023	FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 31 1109 SOUTH 50TH STEET , TACOMA, WA 98408		PAC Reporting	Fair market value: \$35.13 Aggregate total (N): \$1,122.45
08/10/2023	FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 31 1109 SOUTH 50TH STEET , TACOMA, WA 98408		PAC Reporting	Fair market value: \$35.13 Aggregate total (N): \$1,122.45
08/21/2023	FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 31 1109 SOUTH 50TH STEET , TACOMA, WA 98408		PAC Reporting	Fair market value: \$35.13 Aggregate total (N): \$1,122.45

2. PLEDGES RECEIVED BUT NOT YET PAID:

No pledges reported this period

3. ORDERS PLACED, DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS:

No debt reported this period

Schedule C: Corrections

3. CONTRIBUTIONS AND RECEIPTS

No Contributions and receipts reported this period

2. EXPENDITURES

No expenditures reported this period

3. REFUNDS FROM VENDORS

Date of Report	Source of refund	Amount of refund
08/31/2023	Karen Mauer-Smith 115 Ramsdell Street , Fircrest, WA 98466	\$100.00



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**SUMMARY, FULL REPORT RECEIPTS
AND EXPENDITURES**

C4

ACTIVE IN DEMOCRACY TACOMA FIREFIGHTERS UNION

1109 S 50TH ST
TACOMA, WA 98408

Coverage: 07/01/2024 to 07/31/2024

Final report: No

Report number: 110235865

Reporting year: 2024

Date submitted: 08/05/2024

RECEIPTS

1. Previous total cash and in-kind contributions (last C4 line 8).		\$128,654.42
2. Cash received (Schedule A line 1).	\$4,264.38	
3. In-kind contributions received (Line 1 schedule B).	\$183.55	
4. Total cash and in-kind contributions received this period (Lines 2 + 3).		\$4,447.93
5. Loan principal repayments made (Line 2 schedule L).	\$0.00	
6. Corrections (Lines 1 or 3 schedule C).	\$0.00	
7. Net adjustments this period (Lines 5 + 6).		\$0.00
8. Total cash and in-kind contributions during campaign (Lines 1 + 4 + 7).		\$133,102.35
9. Total pledge payments due (Line 2 schedule B).	\$0.00	

EXPENDITURES

10. Previous total cash and in-kind expenditures (Last C-4 line 17).		\$29,584.45
11. Cash expenditures (Line 3 schedule A).	\$28,498.50	
12. In-kind expenditures (Line 1 schedule B).	\$183.55	
13. Total cash and in-kind expenditures made this period (Lines 11 + 12).		\$28,682.05
14. Loan principal repayment made (Line 2 schedule L).	\$0.00	
15. Corrections (Lines 2 + 3 schedule C).	\$0.00	
16. Net adjustments this period (Lines 14 + 15).		\$0.00
17. Total cash and in-kind expenditures during campaign (Lines 10 + 13 + 16).		\$58,266.50

CASH SUMMARY

18. Cash on hand (Lines 8 - 17)		\$74,835.85
Line 18 should equal your bank account balance(s) plus your petty cash balance.		
19. Liabilities: (Sum of loans and debts owed)		\$0.00
20. Balance (Lines 18 - 19)		\$74,835.85

I certify this report is true and complete to the best of my knowledge

Treasurer's name and date

MATT FRANK - 08/05/2024

Schedule A: Cash Receipts and Expenditure Detail

1. CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER CASH RECEIPTS REPORTED ON THE C3:

Deposit date	Amount	Deposit date	Amount	Deposit date	Amount
07/23/2024	\$4,264.38				

2. TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS (LINE 2 OF C4): \$4,264.38

3. EXPENDITURES (CASH AND CREDIT TRANSACTION DETAIL):

Date paid	Vendor or recipient (Name and address)	Purpose of expense and/or description	Credit/Debt	Cash
N/A	Expenses	Non-itemized expenditures		\$0.00
07/08/2024	Advocates Inc PO Box 24444 , Federal Way, WA 98093	Management and consulting services: Management and consulting services		\$4,000.00
07/10/2024	Patrick Depoe 401 2nd Ave S #303 , Seattle, WA 98104	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$2,400.00
07/11/2024	Committee to Elect Jake Fey PO Box 1372 , Tacoma, WA 98401	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$2,400.00
07/12/2024	Friends of T'wina Nobles PO Box 65905 , University Place, WA 98466	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$2,400.00
07/12/2024	Richard Miller 6824 19th Street West , University Place, WA 98466	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$2,400.00
07/12/2024	Friends of Laurie Jenkins PO Box 2032 , Tacoma, WA 98401	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$1,200.00
07/12/2024	People for Sharlett Mena PO Box 7437 , Tacoma, WA 98417	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$2,400.00
07/12/2024	Friends of Jani Hitchen PO Box 45457 , Tacoma, WA 98448	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$2,400.00
07/12/2024	People for Rosie Ayala PO Box 364 , Tacoma, WA 98401	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$1,200.00
07/12/2024	Cyndie Fajardo 21818 Mountain Hwy #117 , Spanaway, WA 98357	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$2,400.00
			\$0.00	\$28,498.50

Date paid	Vendor or recipient (Name and address)	Purpose of expense and/or description	Credit/Debt	Cash
07/12/2024	Friends of Dan Bronoske PO Box 39408 , Lakewood, WA 98496	Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate: Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate		\$2,400.00
07/18/2024	XPress Sign Co 8016 S Durango St SW , Lakewood, WA 98499	Printing campaign signs: Political Signs		\$2,898.50
			\$0.00	\$28,498.50
4. TOTAL EXPENDITURES:				\$28,498.50

Schedule B: In-kind Contributions, Pledges, Orders, Debts and Obligations

1. IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED:

Date Received	Contributor	Employer/Occupation	Description	Amount
07/08/2024	FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 31 1109 SOUTH 50TH STEET , TACOMA, WA 98408		C4 Reporting	Fair market value: \$36.71 Aggregate total (N): \$679.13
07/10/2024	FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 31 1109 SOUTH 50TH STEET , TACOMA, WA 98408		Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate	Fair market value: \$36.71 Aggregate total (N): \$679.13
07/12/2024	FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 31 1109 SOUTH 50TH STEET , TACOMA, WA 98408		Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate	Fair market value: \$73.42 Aggregate total (N): \$679.13
07/23/2024	FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 31 1109 SOUTH 50TH STEET , TACOMA, WA 98408		Monetary contributions to PAC or candidate	Fair market value: \$36.71 Aggregate total (N): \$679.13

2. PLEDGES RECEIVED BUT NOT YET PAID:

No pledges reported this period

3. ORDERS PLACED, DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS:

No debt reported this period
