

Respondent Name
Mike Massey - 2024
Complainant Name
Conner Edwards
Complaint Description
<p>Conner Edwards reported via the portal (Mon, 14 Oct 2024 at 11:51 AM)</p> <p>Description of Complaint</p> <p>See attached complaint.</p> <p>Notice to Respondent</p> <p>I apologize to you for any inconvenience caused by this complaint. The chance that you will actually be fined for the violations identified above is extremely small because the agency is averse to doing the work necessary to bring cases to hearings. Most likely this case – and any future cases against you – will simply be dismissed by staff with a so-called "warning letter".</p> <p>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.</p> <p>What are these shortcomings?</p> <p>Overcomplicated and outdated requirements that are difficult to understand and comply with. Failure to properly educate the regulated community 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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/</p> <p>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.</p> <p>"Be the change that you wish to see in the world." — Mahatma Gandhi</p>
What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?
See complaint. The PDC has an obligation to provide transparency to the voters by enforcing disclosure requirements. The agency's failure to actively monitor compliance with these requirements and enforce them damages both the public and members of the regulated community.
List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found
See complaint and also PDC website.
List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them
See complaint and also 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.

Key Dates: 2024

These dates are also found on the PDC's [Calendar of Events](#).

[Key dates for 2024 special elections are also available.](#)

Within two weeks of organizing or becoming a candidate	Register the campaign. (Candidates also file an F-1.)
	NOTES: Committees organizing within three weeks of election must register within 3 business days of organizing. File an amended registration within 10 days of any changes.
January 10	File a C-3 for each deposit made in the previous month and a C-4 report that covers the period through Dec. 31
February 12	File a C-3 for each deposit made in the previous month and a C-4 report that covers the period through Jan. 31
March 11	File a C-3 for each deposit made in the previous month and a C-4 report that covers the period through Feb. 29
April 10	File a C-3 for each deposit made in the previous month and a C-4 report that covers the period through March 31
May 10	File a C-3 for each deposit made in the previous month and a C-4 report that covers the period through April 30
May 6-10	Declaration of candidacy filing week
June 3	Begin filing C-3 reports weekly, each Monday, for deposits made during previous 7 days (Monday through Sunday)
June 10	File a C-3 for each deposit made in the previous month and a C-4 report that covers the period through May 31
June 24	Last day before primary election to change from mini to full reporting without special circumstances (See WAC 390-16-125)
	21-day pre-primary C-4. Candidates appearing on the primary election ballot file a C-4 that covers the period June 1 through July 15. So do committees supporting or opposing candidates.
July 16	Candidates not on the primary election ballot and committees only supporting or opposing general election ballot measures file monthly reports in June, July and August. These reports due on the 10th of the following month.
July 27 - August 5	Campaign books open for public inspection
July 30	7-day pre-primary C-4. Candidates appearing on the primary election ballot and committees participating in the primary file a C-4 that covers the period July 16 through July 29
July 30 - August 5	Special reports due if candidate or committee receives contributions of \$1,500 or more from a single source, or committee makes contributions of \$1,500 or more.
	NOTE: Does not constitute authority to exceed applicable local or state contribution limit
AUGUST 6	PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
August 30	Last day before general election to change from mini to full reporting without special circumstances (See WAC 390-16-125)
	Post-primary C-4 due. Covers the period between July 30 and Aug. 31.
September 10	Candidates not on the primary election ballot and committees that did not participate in the primary file a report for the month of August
October 15	21-day pre-general C-4 report due - report for the period Sept. 1 through Oct. 14.

October 15 - November 4	1. Special reports due if a candidate or political committee receives contributions of \$1,500 or more from a single source, or if a political committee makes a contribution of \$1,500 or more.
	2. A candidate for statewide office may not accept contributions from a single source exceeding \$75,000 in the aggregate unless it is from the state committee of a bona fide major or minor political party.
	3. A candidate for another office or a political committee may not receive contributions from a single source exceeding \$7,500 in the aggregate unless it is from the state committee of a bona fide major or minor political party. The exception is ballot measure committees, which may receive larger contributions.
October 26 - November 4	Campaign books open for public inspection
October 29	7-day pre-general C-4 report due - report for the period Oct. 15 through Oct. 28.
November 4	Last Monday that weekly C-3 reports must be filed for general election
NOVEMBER 5	GENERAL ELECTION DAY
December 10	Post-general C-4 due that covers Oct. 29 through Nov. 30. File C-3s that have not been filed for any deposits made in November.
January 10, 2025	End of election cycle C-4 due that covers Dec. 1 through Dec. 31. File C-3s for any deposits made in December.

Registration & Reporting Basics

[Candidate FAQ](#)

[Training and Resources](#)

[Political Committee FAQ](#)

Registration & Reporting Basics

[Candidate Registration](#)

[Committee Registration](#)

[Choosing Mini or Full Reporting](#)

[Bank Accounts](#)

[Ending a Campaign Before the Election is Held](#)

Key Dates: 2024

[Electronic Reporting Tools](#)

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[Expenditures & Debts](#)

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MASSEY MICHAEL D (Mike Massey)



Candidate for PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONER for BENTON PUD 01- ELEC in the 2024 election.

Overview

[Contributions](#)[Expenditures](#)[Pledges](#)[Debts](#)[Loans](#)[Independent Expenditures](#)

Candidate Overview

Registered May 16, 2024

 13516 Cottonwood Creek Blvd
Kennewick, WA 99338
 michaelmassey509@gmail.com

Candidacy Status

- ↳ Candidate registered (5/16/2024)
- ↳ Candidate declared (5/9/2024)
- ↳ Qualified for general

Financial Overview

\$0.00 Starting balance	+	\$2,460.00 Contributions	+	\$5,000.00 Loans	=	\$7,460.00 Total raised
\$5,821.33 Total spent				\$0.00 Pledges		\$0.00 Debt
\$0.00 Independent expenditures for					\$0.00 Independent expenditures against	

Candidate Reports and Forms

[Registration Form](#)[Financial Affairs Report](#)

[Surplus Funds Account](#)

[Contributors and Vendors Map](#)

Made to candidate for 2024

Contributions

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

No contributions reported.

Made by candidate for 2024

Expenditures

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

No expenditures reported.

Candidates Filed for this Position

Show entries Search:

* declared candidates (eligible for election)

Candidate	Contributions	Expenditures
MASSEY MICHAEL D (Mike Massey) *	\$2,460.00	\$5,821.33
Barry Allen Bush (Barry Bush) *	\$0.00	\$0.00

Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries

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Spending for and against this candidate

Independent Expenditures

Independent expenditures are made by third parties that are not part of a candidate's campaign.

No independent expenditures reported.

Incurred by candidate

Debts

This information shows the debt for the campaign as of the submission date of the related report.

Outstanding debt for campaign is \$0.00

Campaign Finance Reports

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

Show

25

 entries

[Download 12 rows as CSV.](#)

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
10/04/2024 - 10/04/2024	110251593	10/14/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/03/2024 - 10/03/2024	110251592	10/14/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/25/2024 - 09/25/2024	110251591	10/14/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/06/2024 - 09/06/2024	110251590	10/14/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/01/2024 - 10/14/2024	110251600	10/14/2024	View Report	C4	2024
08/28/2024 - 08/28/2024	110251589	10/14/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/13/2024 - 08/13/2024	110251588	10/14/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/01/2024 - 08/31/2024	110251596	10/14/2024	View Report	C4	2024
07/01/2024 - 07/31/2024	110251595	10/14/2024	View Report	C4	2024
06/01/2024 - 06/30/2024	110251594	10/14/2024	View Report	C4	2024
05/21/2024 - 05/21/2024	110251586	10/14/2024	View Report	C3	2024
05/09/2024 - 05/31/2024	110219416	06/06/2024	View Report	C4	2024

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Complaint Against: Michael Massey

Submitted: 10/14/24

Notice to Respondent by: 10/24/24 per WAC 390-37-050(1)

90 Day Initial Hearing Deadline: 1/12/25 per RCW 42.17A.755(3)

Statutes Violated: RCW 42.17A.235, .240

Background**Washington State's Campaign Finance Disclosure Law**

One of the primary purposes of the public disclosure law is to provide citizens of this state, and especially voters, with the means for becoming informed about the financing of political campaigns.¹ The public disclosure law was enacted through voter approval of Initiative 276 in 1972.

State law requires candidates and committees that register under full reporting to submit regular reports of financial activity. Those reports are filed on schedules outlined on the PDC's key reporting dates calendar.²

Violations

This candidate was obligated to file this C3 report³ (for a \$1000 deposit) no later than 6/10/24. It was not filed until 10/14/24, more than 4 months late.

This C3 report⁴ (for a \$5000 deposit) should have been filed no later than 8/19/24. It was not filed until 10/14/24, nearly 2 months late.

The respondent also filed a number of smaller reports for deposits ranging from 7-42 days late. See reports: #110251593, #110251592, #110251591, #110251590, #110251589.

Additionally, this C4 report⁵ covering the month of August was required to have been filed no later than 9/10/24 but it was not filed 10/14/24, over one month late. On this C4 report, the respondent was required to list the number of signs purchased but failed to do so. He also miscategorized the expenditure as "Broadcast/cable TV advertising" which I'm sure the PDC staff will also view as a violation.

¹ <https://pdc.wa.gov/registration-reporting/candidates-committees/registration-reporting-basics>

² <https://pdc.wa.gov/registration-reporting/candidates-committees/registration-reporting-basics/key-dates-2024>

³ <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110251586>

⁴ <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110251588>

⁵ <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110251596>

Conclusion

With the 2024 general election rapidly approaching, I urge the PDC staff to take quick action and resolve the noncompliance identified in this complaint.

Best,

/s/

Conner Edwards
(425) 533-1677 cell

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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?

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