

Respondent Name
Jefferson Co. Democrats & Central Comm
Complainant Name
Conner Edwards
Complaint Description
<p>Conner Edwards reported via the portal (Wed, 29 Jan 2025 at 9:59 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.</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Overcomplicated and outdated requirements that are difficult to understand and comply with.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>“I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept.” — Angela Davis</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.

JEFFERSON CO. DEMOCRATS & CENTRAL
COMM. (JEFFCO DEMS) 2024

- Overview
- Contributions
- Expenditures
- Pledges
- Debts
- Loans

Itemized Expenditures

\$94,713.24

Shown below are the campaign’s expenditures. Small expenses may be grouped together and reported as one sum. Donated goods and services (known as in-kind contributions) also appear here as expenditures, with the contributor listed in the recipient column.

Expenditures by Expense Type

Fundraising events and related...

\$33,716.22

Monetary contributions to PAC...

\$20,000.00

Rent, lease, mortgage, PO...

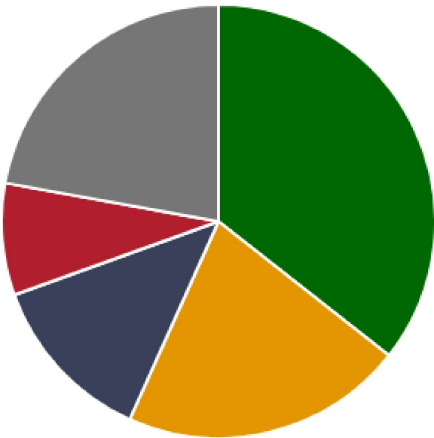
\$12,114.60

Travel, accommodations, meals

\$7,900.00

Miscellaneous

\$20,982.42



Results for:

Recipient Name: Amazon X

Hide Filters Search Tips

Recipient Name

Amazon

X

Description

Enter text

X

Date

Y

From

To

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Recipient City

Enter text

X

Recipient State

Select

X

Amount

From

To

X

Show

50

▼

entries

Download 6 rows as CSV.

Recipient	▲	Date	▼	Description	◆	Recipient City	◆	Recipient State	◆	Amount	◆	Report	◆
AMAZON.com, Inc.		08/15/2024		Lifesize cardboard Kamala Harris		Seattle		WA		\$61.09		View Report	
AMAZON.com, Inc.		07/28/2024		1,005 yards miscellaneous ribbons		Seattle		WA		\$37.52		View Report	
AMAZON.com, Inc.		07/28/2024		20 rolls 1' blue painter's tape		Seattle		WA		\$40.36		View Report	
AMAZON.com, Inc.		07/28/2024		4 pk 30-yd 2" gaffer tape		Seattle		WA		\$35.18		View Report	
AMAZON.com, Inc.		07/28/2024		20 pc pleated flag bunting		Seattle		WA		\$51.27		View Report	
AMAZON.com, Inc.		07/28/2024		100 flower bouquet sleeves		Seattle		WA		\$32.70		View Report	

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FILE ONLINE

JEFFERSON CO. DEMOCRATS & CENTRAL
COMM. (JEFFCO DEMS) 2024

- OverviewContributionsExpendituresPledgesDebtsLoans

Committee Overview

Registered January 11, 2007
Democratic County Party
Treasurer is Deborah Pedersen

Committee Contact

PO Box 85
Port Townsend, WA 98368

info@jeffcodemocrats.com

360-379-5655

Financial Overview

\$24,516.18	+	\$110,060.11	+	\$0.00	=	\$134,576.29
Starting balance		Contributions		Loans		Total raised
\$94,713.24				\$0.00		\$0.00
Total spent				Pledges		Debt

Committee Reports and Forms

- Registration Form

Contributors and Vendors Map

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

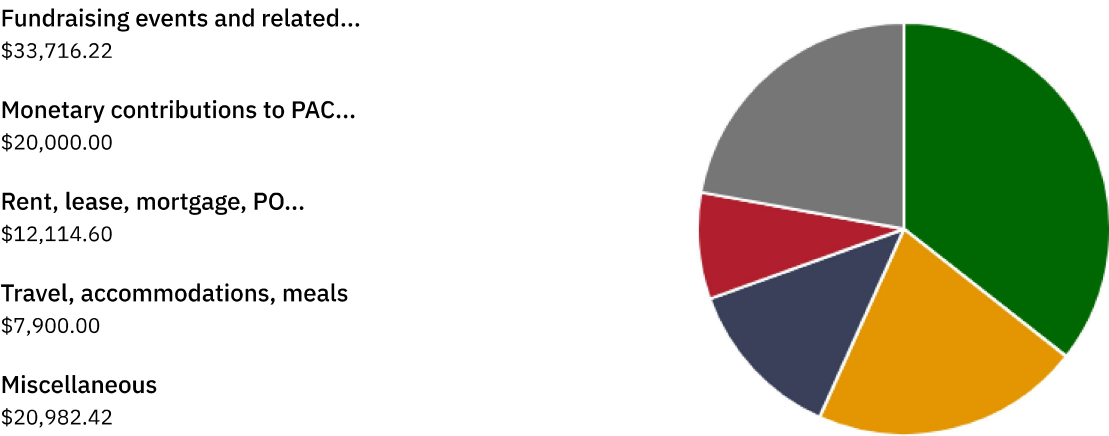


Made by committee for 2024

Expenditures

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

Expenditures made by candidate for 2024



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 100 entries

Download 127 rows as CSV.

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
12/30/2024 - 12/30/2024	110265531	12/30/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/23/2024 - 12/23/2024	110265336	12/23/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/23/2024 - 12/23/2024	110265337	12/23/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/16/2024 - 12/16/2024	110264804	12/16/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/16/2024 - 12/16/2024	110264806	12/16/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/12/2024 - 12/12/2024	110264514	12/12/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/10/2024 - 12/10/2024	110263816	12/10/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/09/2024 - 12/09/2024	110262945	12/09/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/09/2024 - 12/09/2024	110262948	12/09/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/02/2024 - 12/02/2024	110261563	12/02/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/02/2024 - 12/02/2024	110261567	12/02/2024	View Report	C3	2024
12/01/2024 - 12/31/2024	110267003	01/09/2025	View Report	C4	2024
11/25/2024 - 11/25/2024	110261084	11/25/2024	View Report	C3	2024
11/25/2024 - 11/25/2024	110261085	11/25/2024	View Report	C3	2024
11/18/2024 - 11/18/2024	110260511	11/18/2024	View Report	C3	2024
11/18/2024 - 11/18/2024	110260513	11/18/2024	View Report	C3	2024

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
11/12/2024 - 11/12/2024	110260285	11/13/2024	View Report	C3	2024
11/08/2024 - 11/08/2024	110260283	11/13/2024	View Report	C3	2024
11/04/2024 - 11/04/2024	110258740	11/04/2024	View Report	C3	2024
11/04/2024 - 11/04/2024	110258745	11/04/2024	View Report	C3	2024
11/04/2024 - 11/04/2024	110258749	11/04/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/29/2024 - 11/30/2024	110262954 Amended by: 110265545	12/09/2024	View Report	C4	2024
10/29/2024 - 11/30/2024	110265545	12/30/2024	View Report	C4 - Amended	2024
10/28/2024 - 10/28/2024	110255928	10/28/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/28/2024 - 10/28/2024	110255936	10/28/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/28/2024 - 10/28/2024	110255943	10/28/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/21/2024 - 10/21/2024	110254299	10/21/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/21/2024 - 10/21/2024	110254301	10/21/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/21/2024 - 10/21/2024	110254303	10/21/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/15/2024 - 10/15/2024	110252516	10/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/15/2024 - 10/15/2024	110252519	10/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/15/2024 - 10/15/2024	110252523	10/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/15/2024 - 10/28/2024	110256536 Amended by: 110265544	10/29/2024	View Report	C4	2024
10/15/2024 - 10/28/2024	110265544	12/30/2024	View Report	C4 - Amended	2024
10/07/2024 - 10/07/2024	110249770	10/07/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/07/2024 - 10/07/2024	110249776	10/07/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/07/2024 - 10/07/2024	110249785	10/07/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/30/2024 - 09/30/2024	110248192	09/30/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/30/2024 - 09/30/2024	110248210	09/30/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/30/2024 - 09/30/2024	110248214	09/30/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/24/2024 - 09/24/2024	110247239	09/24/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/23/2024 - 09/23/2024	110246750	09/23/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/23/2024 - 09/23/2024	110246755	09/23/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/23/2024 - 09/23/2024	110246762	09/23/2024	View Report	C3	2024

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
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09/16/2024 - 09/16/2024	110245968	09/17/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/16/2024 - 09/16/2024	110245969	09/17/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/13/2024 - 09/13/2024	110245136	09/13/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/09/2024 - 09/09/2024	110244986	09/12/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/09/2024 - 09/09/2024	110244989	09/12/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/09/2024 - 09/09/2024	110244990	09/12/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/03/2024 - 09/03/2024	110241818	09/03/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/03/2024 - 09/03/2024	110241819	09/03/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/03/2024 - 09/03/2024	110241823	09/03/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/01/2024 - 10/14/2024	110252534 Amended by: 110265542	10/15/2024	View Report	C4	2024
09/01/2024 - 10/14/2024	110265542	12/30/2024	View Report	C4 - Amended	2024
08/26/2024 - 08/26/2024	110240343	08/26/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/26/2024 - 08/26/2024	110240347	08/26/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/26/2024 - 08/26/2024	110240352	08/26/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/19/2024 - 08/19/2024	110239025	08/19/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/19/2024 - 08/19/2024	110239027	08/19/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/19/2024 - 08/19/2024	110239034	08/19/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/12/2024 - 08/12/2024	110237651	08/12/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/12/2024 - 08/12/2024	110237653	08/12/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/12/2024 - 08/12/2024	110237656	08/12/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/12/2024 - 08/12/2024	110238292	08/13/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/05/2024 - 08/05/2024	110236094	08/05/2024	View Report	C3	2024
08/05/2024 - 08/05/2024	110236100	08/05/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/30/2024 - 08/31/2024	110242865 Amended by: 110265540	09/08/2024	View Report	C4	2024
07/30/2024 - 08/31/2024	110265540	12/30/2024	View Report	C4 - Amended	2024
07/29/2024 - 07/29/2024	110233088	07/29/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/29/2024 - 07/29/2024	110233090	07/29/2024	View Report	C3	2024

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
07/29/2024 - 07/29/2024	110233095	07/29/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/29/2024 - 07/29/2024	110233101	07/29/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/29/2024 - 07/29/2024	110233107	07/29/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/22/2024 - 07/22/2024	110231787	07/22/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/22/2024 - 07/22/2024	110231788	07/22/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/22/2024 - 07/22/2024	110231789	07/22/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/22/2024 - 07/22/2024	110231790	07/22/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/22/2024 - 07/22/2024	110231794	07/22/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/16/2024 - 07/29/2024	110234077 Amended by: 110265539	07/30/2024	View Report	C4	2024
07/16/2024 - 07/29/2024	110265539 Amended by: 110267010	12/30/2024	View Report	C4 - Amended	2024
07/16/2024 - 07/29/2024	110267010	01/09/2025	View Report	C4 - Amended	2024
07/15/2024 - 07/15/2024	110229308	07/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/15/2024 - 07/15/2024	110229315	07/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/15/2024 - 07/15/2024	110229364	07/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/08/2024 - 07/08/2024	110227627 Amended by: 110228459	07/08/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/08/2024 - 07/08/2024	110227620	07/08/2024	View Report	C3	2024
07/08/2024 - 07/08/2024	110228459	07/11/2024	View Report	C3 - Amended	2024
07/01/2024 - 07/01/2024	110225730	07/01/2024	View Report	C3	2024
06/24/2024 - 06/24/2024	110224297	06/24/2024	View Report	C3	2024
06/24/2024 - 06/24/2024	110224302	06/24/2024	View Report	C3	2024
06/17/2024 - 06/17/2024	110223280	06/17/2024	View Report	C3	2024
06/17/2024 - 06/17/2024	110223287	06/17/2024	View Report	C3	2024
06/10/2024 - 06/10/2024	110221151	06/10/2024	View Report	C3	2024
06/10/2024 - 06/10/2024	110221162	06/10/2024	View Report	C3	2024
06/03/2024 - 06/03/2024	110218298	06/03/2024	View Report	C3	2024
06/01/2024 - 07/15/2024	110230358 Amended by: 110265538	07/16/2024	View Report	C4	2024
06/01/2024 - 07/15/2024	110265538	12/30/2024	View Report	C4 - Amended	2024
05/28/2024 - 05/28/2024	110217047	05/28/2024	View Report	C3	2024

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FILE ONLINE

Complaint Against: JEFFERSON CO. DEMOCRATS & CENTRAL COMM

Submitted: 1/29/25

Notice to Respondent Due By: 2/8/25 per WAC 390-37-050(1)

90 Day Initial Hearing Deadline: 4/29/25 per RCW 42.17A.755(3)

Statutes Violated: RCW 42.17A.235, .240, WAC 390-16-125

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 committee was required to file an accurate 7-day C4 report by 7/30/24. It failed to file an accurate report of spending until 1/9/25, well after the 2024 primary and general elections had ended. The corrected report disclosed an additional \$2000 worth of spending.

Original report: <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110234077>

Amended Report: <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110267010>

Additionally, for several purchases from AMAZON, the committee failed to disclose the SUBVENDOR (i.e. the affiliate store) that actually received all or part of the funds. I understand that staff believe this is a violation. See attached.

Conclusion

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

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>

Notice to Respondent

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.

This complaint is one of over one thousand complaints 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 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.

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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.

“You can’t make an omelet without breaking a few eggs.”
— François de Charette