

Respondent Name
Together for Pierce County
Complainant Name
Conner Edwards
Complaint Description
<p>Conner Edwards reported via the portal (Mon, 16 Dec 2024 at 3:49 PM)</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Overcomplicated and outdated requirements that are difficult to understand and comply with.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.



Together for Pierce County 2020

Overview

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

Committee Overview

Registered September 30, 2020

Single Election Committee

Treasurer is Leticia Ocampo Villamar

Committee Contact

📍 PO Box 39768

Lakewood, WA 98496

✉ accounting@fusewashington.org

📞 2064200133

Financial Overview

\$0.00	+	\$38,480.73	+	\$0.00	=	\$38,480.73
Starting balance		Contributions		Loans		Total raised

\$36,960.72
Total spent

\$0.00
Pledges

\$0.00
Debt

Committee Reports and Forms

[Registration Form](#)

[Contributors and Vendors Map](#)

Made to committee for 2020**Contributions**

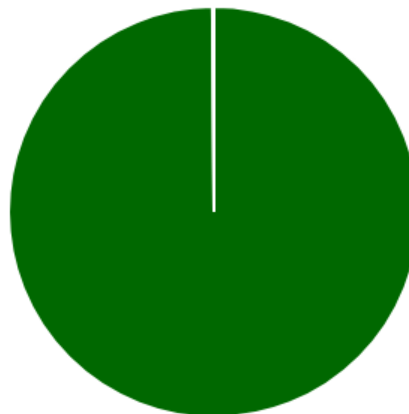
See who has contributed cash and in-kind (non-monetary) contributions to the committee..

Contributions made to committee for 2020**Political Action Committee**

\$38,432.73

Individual

\$48.00

**Made by committee for 2020****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 2020**Independent Expenditure**

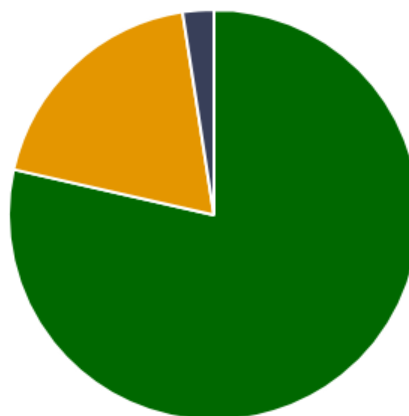
\$29,035.06

Not Provided

\$7,019.93

Inkind contribution

\$905.73



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 9 rows as CSV.](#)

Period ▼	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
12/01/2020 - 12/31/2020	110005110	01/07/2021	View Report	C4	2020
10/27/2020 - 11/30/2020	110002289	12/09/2020	View Report	C4	2020
10/23/2020 - 10/23/2020	101009975	10/23/2020	View Report	C3	2020
10/22/2020 - 10/22/2020	101009625	10/22/2020	View Report	C3	2020
10/14/2020 - 10/14/2020	101005648	10/12/2020	View Report	C3	2020
10/13/2020 - 10/26/2020	101011788	10/27/2020	View Report	C4	2020
10/08/2020 - 10/08/2020	101004162	10/08/2020	View Report	C3	2020
09/01/2020 - 10/12/2020	101006274	10/13/2020	View Report	C4 - Amended	2020
09/01/2020 - 10/12/2020	101006246 Amended by: 101006274	10/13/2020	View Report	C4	2020

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Together for Pierce County 2024

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

Committee Overview

Registered August 13, 2024
Single Election Committee
Treasurer is Rowan Lenihan

Committee Contact

PO Box 4897
Seattle, WA 98194
info@fusewashington.org
2062356511

Financial Overview

\$0.00	+	\$293,000.00	+	\$0.00	=	\$293,000.00
Starting balance		Contributions		Loans		Total raised
\$293,755.00				\$0.00		\$26,067.00
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..

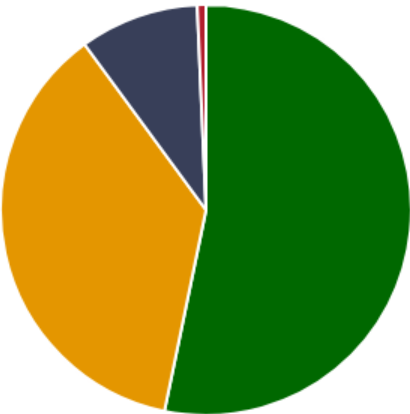
Contributions made to committee for 2024

Political Action Committee
\$156,000.00

Union
\$107,500.00

Business
\$27,500.00

Individual
\$2,000.00



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 candidate for 2024

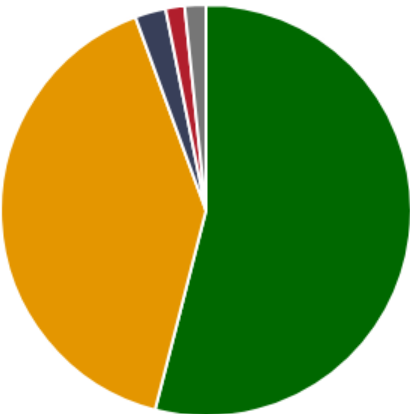
Campaign merchandise/paraphernalia
\$309,622.50

Postage costs, mail permits,...
\$231,824.10

Accounting, legal, regulatory...
\$13,900.00

Other
\$8,583.42

Miscellaneous
\$9,528.98



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.

\$26,067.00

Campaign Finance Reports

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

Show 25 entries

Download 22 rows as CSV.

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
11/07/2024 - 11/07/2024	110264748	12/16/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/30/2024 - 10/30/2024	110264750	12/16/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/29/2024 - 11/30/2024	110264752	12/16/2024	View Report	C4	2024
10/28/2024 - 10/28/2024	110256087	10/28/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/24/2024 - 10/24/2024	110255098	10/24/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/22/2024 - 10/22/2024	110254957	10/23/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/17/2024 - 10/17/2024	110253800	10/18/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/15/2024 - 10/28/2024	110256179 Amended by: 110256577	10/28/2024	View Report	C4	2024
10/15/2024 - 10/28/2024	110256577	10/29/2024	View Report	C4 - Amended	2024
10/14/2024 - 10/14/2024	110252759 Amended by: 110254955	10/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/14/2024 - 10/14/2024	110254955	10/23/2024	View Report	C3 - Amended	2024
10/11/2024 - 10/11/2024	110252755	10/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/09/2024 - 10/09/2024	110249680 Amended by: 110249682	10/07/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/09/2024 - 10/09/2024	110252749	10/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
10/09/2024 - 10/09/2024	110252752	10/15/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/30/2024 - 09/30/2024	110249708	10/07/2024	View Report	C3	2024

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
09/25/2024 - 09/25/2024	110249709	10/07/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/24/2024 - 09/24/2024	110249707	10/07/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/19/2024 - 09/19/2024	110249695	10/07/2024	View Report	C3	2024
09/09/2024 - 09/09/2024	110249682	10/07/2024	View Report	C3 - Amended	2024
09/01/2024 - 10/14/2024	110252762	10/15/2024	View Report	C4	2024
08/13/2024 - 08/31/2024	110244250	09/10/2024	View Report	C4	2024

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FILE ONLINE

Complaint Against: Together for Pierce County**Submitted:** 12/16/24**Notice to Respondent Due By:** 12/26/24 per WAC 390-37-050(1)**90 Day Initial Hearing Deadline:** 3/16/25 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 committee failed to timely file their post-general C4 report, see link:

<https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110264752> .

More significantly, the committee failed to timely disclose a \$7500 contribution and a \$5000 contribution (both of which were required to have been disclosed before the election) until over a month after the election had already ended. See link:

<https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110264750> .

Additionally, on their last C4 for 2020, the committee disclosed an ending cash on hand balance of \$1,520.01. See link: <https://web.pdc.wa.gov/rptimg/default.aspx?repno=110005110> .

However, on the committee's opening C4 for 2024, the committee disclosed a starting balance of \$0.00. See link: <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110244250> . This suggests incomplete reporting.

Furthermore, the committee filed no reports covering January 1, 2021 to August 12, 2024.

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>

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What are these shortcomings?

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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