



**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: [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdcca.wa.gov](http://www.pdcca.wa.gov)**

July 15, 2025

Delivered electronically to Therese Murphy on behalf of Firefighters for Protecting Public Lands at [therese@wscff.org](mailto:therese@wscff.org)

Subject: PDC Case 170049 Firefighters for Protecting Public Lands

Firefighters for Protecting Public Lands:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint filed by Conner Edwards on April 1, 2025. The complaint alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 for failing to timely and accurately file expenditure reports and debt in the 2024 election year.

Applicable Laws and Rules

- [RCW 42.17A.235](#) requires each treasurer of a candidate or political committee, or an incidental committee, to file with commission a report of all contributions received, and expenditures made as a political committee on the next reporting date pursuant to the timeline established in the statute.
- [RCW 42.17A.240\(9\)\(a\)](#) requires each treasurer of a candidate or political committee, or an incidental committee, to file with the commission a report including/depicting the name and address of any person and the amount owed for any debt with a value of one thousand dollars or more that has not been paid for any invoices submitted, goods received, or services performed, within five business days during the period within thirty days before an election, or within ten business days during any other period.

Background and Findings

- The complaint alleged that Firefighters for Protecting Public Lands (“The Committee”), a single election committee in the 2024 election year, failed to timely and accurately file expenditure reports.
- Staff noted that The Committee failed to timely file the C-4 report that was due on October 10, 2024, covering September 1 – 30, 2024. The report was required to be filed no later than October 10, 2024, and was filed 158 days late on March 17, 2025.
- Regarding the allegation about the \$5,500 expenditure that was reported on the September 2024 C-4 being reported as a debt earlier on one of the accelerated reports (21-day or the 7-day pre-primary report(s)), staff noted that the order for the \$5,500 expenditure was placed on July 29, 2024, and

therefore The Committee had no reporting obligation since the debt was not outstanding for five days at the close of that reporting period (July 16 through July 29, 2024).

- In the response to the complaint received on April 14, 2025, The Committee, by way of Therese Murphy, stated: “We thought the last report due for the primary campaign was for the period July 30 – August 31, 2024 and we submitted that report September 5, 2024. A vendor associated with the primary campaign contacted us in March 2025 about a possible refund. Because we had closed the campaign and the bank account associated with it, I reached out to the PDC and staff informed me I should have submitted a report for the period ending September 30, 2024 and I immediately submitted the report.”

### Summary and Resolution

It appears that the failure to timely file the September C-4 report was the result of a lack of understanding of the requirements regarding filing reports with the PDC. It appears that The Committee did not intentionally withhold information as demonstrated by filing the required report, even though it was late.

Based on our findings, staff has determined that, in this instance, the failure to timely and accurately file the required C-4 report does not amount to a violation that warrants further investigation.

Pursuant to [WAC 390-37-060\(1\)\(d\)](#), however, you are receiving a formal written warning concerning the failure to timely disclose a C-4 report. The PDC staff expects you to file timely contributions and expenditure reports (C-4) in the future, as required by law. The Commission will consider the formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

Any allegations regarding reporting by The Committee for the 2024 primary election cycle that are not otherwise addressed are hereby dismissed.

Accordingly, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with [RCW 42.17A.755\(1\)](#).

If you have questions, you may contact Erick O. Agina, Compliance Officer, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Electronically signed by Erick O. Agina  
Erick O. Agina  
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee  
Peter Frey Lavallee  
Executive Director

cc: Conner Edwards