

Respondent Names
Thurston County Democrats
Complainant Name
Conner Edwards
Complaint Description
Conner Edwards reported via the portal (Mon, 4 Aug 2025 at 11:30 PM) See complaint & PDC website.
What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?
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.
List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found
See complaint & PDC website.
List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them
See complaint & 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.

Complaint Against: Thurston County Democrats**Submitted:** 8/4/2025**Notice to Respondent Due By:** 8/14/2025 per WAC 390-37-050(1)**90 Day Initial Hearing Deadline:** 11/2/2025 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

See attached invoice. The Thurston County Democrats were obligated to pay \$2221.50 to the City of Olympia on 3/17/25. This meets the criteria described in RCW 42.17A.240(9)(a) for when a debt must be reported on Form C4. Yet no debt was reported on March's C4 report, see link: <https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/public/registrations/campaign-finance-report/110282795>

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

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.

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>

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.

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.

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.

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”
— Mahatma Gandhi

Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation
222 Columbia St NW
Olympia, WA 98501
Phone: (360) 753-8380
FAX: (360) 570-5853
Email: olympiaparks@ci.olympia.wa.us

Receipt #1066048.002

Apr 25, 2025 2:59 PM



THURSTON COUNTY DEMOCRATS
JERRY TOOMPAS
ORGANIZATION CONTACT
PO BOX 164
OLYMPIA, WA 98507

Prepared By: John Godfrey (O)
Company ID: 236

Home phone: (253) 987-6547, Work phone: --

Payment Summary

Credit Card: \$2,221.50 Visa xxx7162, Auth# 045945

Total Received: \$2,221.50

Total Payments: \$2,221.50

Transactions

Customer	Description	Item	Unit	Qty	Fee	Charge
Jerry Toompas 120 SE View Drive Yelm, WA 98597 Home phone: (253) 987-6547 Email: jerry@thurstondemocrats.org ID: 94714	The Blue Gala Action: Paid on Account Balance ¹ Location: Multipurpose Room ABC at The Olympia Ctr Permit #R22507	Deposit	Each			\$300.00
Jerry Toompas 120 SE View Drive Yelm, WA 98597 Home phone: (253) 987-6547 Email: jerry@thurstondemocrats.org ID: 94714	The Blue Gala Action: Paid on Account Balance ¹ Location: Multipurpose Room ABC at The Olympia Ctr Permit #R22507	Alcohol Permit - TOC/HH	Per Day			\$50.00
Jerry Toompas 120 SE View Drive Yelm, WA 98597 Home phone: (253) 987-6547 Email: jerry@thurstondemocrats.org ID: 94714	The Blue Gala Action: Paid on Account Balance ¹ Location: Multipurpose Room ABC at The Olympia Ctr Permit #R22507	Meeting Room	Per Hour			\$1,071.00
Jerry Toompas 120 SE View Drive Yelm, WA 98597 Home phone: (253) 987-6547 Email: jerry@thurstondemocrats.org ID: 94714	The Blue Gala Action: Paid on Account Balance ¹ Location: Multipurpose Room ABC at The Olympia Ctr Permit #R22507	Multipurpose Room Extra Hours	Each			\$256.50
Jerry Toompas 120 SE View Drive Yelm, WA 98597 Home phone: (253) 987-	The Blue Gala Action: Paid on Account Balance ¹ Location: Multipurpose Room ABC at The	Set Up - TOC	Each			\$182.00

6547
Email:
jerry@thurstondemocrats.org
ID: 94714

Olympia Ctr
Permit #R22507

Jerry Toompas
120 SE View Drive
Yelm, WA 98597
Home phone: (253) 987-
6547
Email:
jerry@thurstondemocrats.org
ID: 94714

The Blue Gala
Action: Paid on Account Balance ¹
Location: Multipurpose Room ABC at The
Olympia Ctr
Permit #R22507

Take
Down -
TOC Each \$182.00

Jerry Toompas
120 SE View Drive
Yelm, WA 98597
Home phone: (253) 987-
6547
Email:
jerry@thurstondemocrats.org
ID: 94714
**For: Thurston County
Democrats**

The Blue Gala
Action: Paid on Account Balance ¹
Location: Meeting Room 103 at The Olympia Ctr
Permit #R22507

Meeting
Room Per Hour \$180.00

Total Charges \$2,221.50
Total Payments \$2,221.50
Balance \$0.00

▼ ¹ **Payment Schedule for Original Balance of \$2,221.50**

Due Date	Amount Due	Amount Paid	Withdrawal Adjustment	Balance
Mar 17, 2025	\$2,221.50	\$2,221.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
			Current Balance	\$0.00
			Due Now	\$0.00