

Respondent Name
John Ulric Seng
Complainant Name
Conner Edwards
Complaint Description
Conner Edwards reported via the portal (Tue, 29 Apr 2025 at 2:25 PM) See complaint.
What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?
See complaint.
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: John Ulric Seng

Submitted: 4/29/2025

Notice to Respondent Due By: 5/9/2025 per WAC 390-37-050(1)

90 Day Initial Hearing Deadline: 7/28/2025 per RCW 42.17A.755(3)

Statutes Violated: RCW 42.17A.615

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 efforts to influence state law and policy through lobbying.

The public disclosure law was enacted through voter approval of Initiative 276 in 1972.

State law requires lobbyists and lobbyist employers to file timely/accurate reports to the public disclosing their reason for lobbying and how much they spend on lobbying efforts. Generally, lobbyists must report their lobbying efforts on form L2 on the 15th day of the following month.

Violations

This lobbyist filed the following late reports:

Filer Name	Report Type	Amends Report	Report From	Report To	Due Date	Date Filed	Days Lat	URL
John Ulric Seng	L2	197498	1/1/2024	1/31/2024	2/15/2024	4/15/2025	425	https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/lobbyist/public/-/#/public/l2-report/2007083
John Ulric Seng	L2	0	1/1/2025	1/31/2025	2/15/2025	4/15/2025	59	https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/lobbyist/public/-/#/public/l2-report/2007077
John Ulric Seng	L2	0	2/1/2025	2/28/2025	3/15/2025	4/15/2025	31	https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/lobbyist/public/-/#/public/l2-report/2007079
John Ulric Seng	L2	2000013	10/1/2024	10/31/2024	11/15/2024	12/11/2024	26	https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/lobbyist/public/-/#/public/l2-report/2001451
John Ulric Seng	L2 AMENDED	0	1/1/2024	1/31/2024	2/15/2024	2/23/2024	8	https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/lobbyist/public/-/#/public/l2-report/197498
John Ulric Seng	L2	0	12/1/2024	12/31/2024	1/15/2025	1/17/2025	2	https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/lobbyist/public/-/#/public/l2-report/2003055
John Ulric Seng	L2	0	6/1/2024	6/30/2024	7/15/2024	7/17/2024	2	https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/lobbyist/public/-/#/public/l2-report/205834
John Ulric Seng	L2	0	3/1/2024	3/31/2024	4/15/2024	4/16/2024	1	https://apollo.pdc.wa.gov/lobbyist/public/-/#/public/l2-report/202262

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.

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