

bryanb@ewvoters.org replied

(Fri, 15 Sep 2023 at 3:25 PM)

To: "PDC Support" pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov , info@ewvoters.org

External Email

Dear PDC staff and Mr. Morgan,

Thank you for the reminder of the importance of filing reports on time. This had the benefit of me checking the new reporting requirements. I was not aware of the rule change that the threshold to file reports changed from \$200 dollars spent or received to that of zero. However, I realize that does not account for all of my late reports. I know that I need to do better.

Also, I was unaware that I likely need to file paperwork that declares a sponsoring committee. Thank you for pointing that out as well.

Mr. Morgan is correct that have filed reports late. I do not dispute that. However, I do disagree with Mr. Morgan's characterization of those late filings as intentional or disrespectful of the law. I believe PDC rules are reasonable, fair, and serve important purposes. Specifically, I suspect that the requirement of registering a sponsoring PAC is to help prevent people from obscuring the sources of money in state elections, which I also support.

Context

Regarding the suggested sponsoring committee, Mr. Morgan is referring to our registered Federal PAC. I need to familiarizing myself with PDC rules regarding the topic. However, the Federal committee is not "Secretive" nor a source of "Dark Money" as Mr. Morgan suggests. It is even referred to in PDC reports as "'Eastern Washington Voters (Federal) PAC". It is run by the same organization, Eastern Washington Voters, and is funded by the same set of individual donors. Most of these individual control are small or medium sized (\$50 to \$500). All of the contributions to the Federal PAC could have legally been deposited in our State PAC, and most of them are from donors that have had their contributions deposited into our State PAC at one or another. Thus, I never thought of it as a sponsoring PAC.

I adopted the practice of depositing most donations into the Federal PAC because it gives me the option of using that money for Federal races (since contributions deposited into the Federal Pac can latter to transferred to State PAC, but not vice versa). However, depositing more of those contributions directly into the State PAC or registering the Federal PAC with the PDC as a sponsoring PAC are easy ways for me to compile with PDC rules as I currently understand those rules. Before I choose between those two options, I will consult with PDC staff about what the consequences of each option might be.

Also, over the years, some or a majority the money in our State PAC has been spent in the State of WA for voter registration and generic voter turnout that is not regulated by the PDC. We simply use our State PAC as an auxiliary source of funding for this use.

Once again, thank you for prompting me to look at the nuances of current set of rules and reminding me of the importance of them.

Sincerely,

Bryan E. Burke, Ph.D. Him/His/He Executive Director Eastern Washington Voters Spokane,
WA (509) 330 1793 cell

bryanb@ewvoters.org replied

(Fri, 15 Sep 2023 at 3:34 PM)

To: "PDC Support" pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov , info@ewvoters.org

External Email

P.S. Mr. Morgan referred to our federal PAC as professional run and well-funded. I guess those terms are subjective. To clarify, I am not a accountant or bookkeeper by training. Also, our federal PAC has received between 15 and 30 thousand dollars per year over the last few years.