

Bethany Whipple-Boling reported via email (*Thu, 27 Jun 2024 at 12:17 PM*)
To: "PDC Support" pdcc@pdc.wa.gov
Cc: ghdemocrats@gmail.com

External Email

Good Afternoon,

Please find our responses to the secondary complaint filed by Mr. Conner Edwards below. For convenience, I have copied directly from email correspondence regarding this matter between Tabatha Blacksmith and myself.

The second complaint, which was submitted by Conner Edwards, alleges the C-4 report filed by Grays Harbor Democrats on January 10, 2024 covering the last four months of 2023 (Sept. - Dec.) was late. More specifically, the second complaint alleges that the activity on the C-4 report that occurred in September was reportable as early as October 10, 2023 (the due date for a Sept. monthly C-4 report), and that pre- and post-General election reports may have also been due, depending on the committee's participation in the 2023 General Election. We have already reviewed your committee's reports for 2023 as part of this case (141468) so we are adding complaint #2 to the existing case in lieu of creating a second, new case. **Mr. Edwards is correct in his allegation that the reports were filed late. In the transition between treasurers, there was a period of time where I was having trouble gaining access to our PDC account through my SAW account. I had to reach out to filer assistance and the solution ended up being something on their end, which they handled internally.**

1) Describe the expenditures that are included in the \$208.33 non-itemized expenditure total on the committee's C-4 report for Sept.-Dec. 2023 ([report 110197175](#)). For each item included in the \$208.33 total, please provide the date paid, vendor/recipient, purpose/description of expenditure, and the dollar amount expended. **After reviewing expenditures for this report, I found that I mistakenly left the "Itemize (optional)" box unchecked for three expenditures, which make up the \$208.33. This was one of the first reports I filed after receiving access to our account and the process is proving to take some time to learn. My apologies. I have gone back and fixed the mistake, amended the C-4 and the necessary information should all be showing now. I will list the expenditures below:**

- \$88 paid to USPS115 N K St. Aberdeen, WA 98520 on 12/30/23 for 6 months rent for P.O Box
- \$90.00 via online transaction to Amazon 440 Terry Ave. N Seattle, WA 98109 on 9/18/23 for Pride themed temporary tattoos, stickers and candy for our informational booth at Grays Harbor Pride Festival
- \$30 paid to Grays Harbor Out and Proud Coalition P.O Box 173 Hoquiam, WA 98550 on 9/14/23 for booth space fee for the 2023 Grays Harbor Pride Festival

2) Did Grays Harbor Democrats participate in the 2023 General election, as defined in [RCW 42.17A.005\(38\)](#)? Your committee previously indicated it did not expend funds for the 2023 General election and its only election-related activity consisted of making endorsements that did not have a cost associated with them. However, we have not yet received a response to the questions we emailed you on 6/7/24 regarding *other activity* that might constitute election participation.

Response from Chair Jacob Borden:

We have no subsidiary or local unit so this is not possible for us. In 2023 we did not participate in the election including making contributions or collaborating/supporting a subsidiary. We made endorsements and that is the extent of our involvement. In 2023 we didn't even help coordinate volunteers for candidates or campaign for them. We did nothing that could be considered campaign involvement per the RCW referenced.

I believe that covers everything outstanding, but if I missed anything, please let me know. As always, I sincerely appreciate your help and patience as I work through these issues, make changes and learn how to improve our reporting.

Thank you,

Bethany Whipple-Boling, Treasurer
Grays Harbor Democrats