

Respondent Names
Leon Lawson
Complainant Name
Conner Edwards
Complaint Description
Conner Edwards Fri, 19 Jul 2024 at 12:31 AM Description of Complaint Candidate failed to timely file 21 day C4, see link: https://pdc.wa.gov/news/2024/ninety-candidates-receive-overdue-notices-missing-reporting-deadline . Notice to Respondent I apologize to you for any inconvenience caused by this complaint. This complaint is one of hundreds 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 Overcomplicated and outdated requirements that are difficult to understand and comply with.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 filers 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

What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?

The PDC has an obligation to provide transparency to the voters by enforcing filing requirements. The agency’s failure to actively monitor the filings of committees and enforce filing requirements damages both the public and the candidates themselves.

List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found

PDC Website.

List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

See respondent contact info on 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.



The PDC will be closed at 3 p.m. Thursday, July 18 for a staff meeting.



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Leon Anon Lawson (Leon A Lawson)

Candidate for GOVERNOR for State of Washington in the 2024 election.

Overview

Contributions

Expenditures

Pledges

Debts

Loans

Independent Expenditures

Candidate Overview

Registered July 8, 2023

Party: REPUBLICAN

 3816 Aberdeen Lake Rd Aberdeen, 98520

 leon@leonlawson.com

Candidacy Status

↳ Candidate registered (7/8/2023)

↳ Candidate declared (5/6/2024)

Financial Overview

\$0.00	+	\$0.00	+	\$0.00	=	\$0.00
Starting balance		Contributions		Loans		Total raised

\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00
Total spent		Pledges		Debt

\$0.00		\$0.00
Independent expenditures for		Independent expenditures against

Candidate Reports and Forms

[Registration Form](#)

[Financial Affairs Report](#)

[Surplus Funds Account](#)

[Contributors and Vendors Map](#)

Made to candidate for 2024

Contributions

See who has contributed cash and in-kind (non-monetary) contributions to the campaign.

No contributions reported.

Made by candidate for 2024

Expenditures

See how the campaign has spent money, and what kind of goods and services it received as in-kind contributions.

No expenditures reported.

Candidates Filed for this Office

Show

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 entries Search:

* declared candidates (eligible for election)

Candidate	Contributions	Expenditures
<u>Robert W. Ferguson (Bob Ferguson)</u> *	\$8,466,648.52	\$5,745,957.80
<u>David G Reichert (Dave Reichert)</u> *	\$4,088,796.12	\$3,299,182.99
<u>Mark D. Mullet (Mark Mullet)</u> *	\$1,320,829.77	\$985,047.43
<u>Jay R Inslee</u>	\$1,030,142.45	\$1,894,884.35
<u>HILARY S FRANZ (Hilary Franz)</u>	\$743,396.07	\$743,298.17
<u>Misipati Semi Bird (Semi Bird)</u> *	\$640,987.71	\$560,488.45
<u>Brian K Bogen (Brian Bogen)</u> *	\$130,651.00	\$101,058.88
<u>ALAN MAKAYEV (Alan Makayev)</u> *	\$70,548.52	\$55,804.83
<u>Cassondra Magdalene Hanson</u> *	\$64,316.45	\$64,316.45

Candidate	↕ Contributions ▼	Expenditures ↕
<u>Raul Garcia</u>	\$47,431.00	\$46,849.11

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Spending for and against this candidate

Independent Expenditures

Independent expenditures are made by third parties that are not part of a candidate's campaign.

No independent expenditures reported.

Incurred by candidate

Debts

This information shows the debt for the campaign as of the submission date of the related report.

Outstanding debt for campaign is \$0.00

Campaign Finance Reports

See the reports filed by the candidate. Reports with a strikethrough were amended by another report.

Show entries

Download 1 rows as CSV.

Period	Report Number	Filed	Report	Form Type	Election Year
07/08/2023 - 04/30/2024	110221345	06/10/2024	View Report	C4	2024
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