

State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908 (360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: <u>pdc@pdc.wa.gov</u> • Website: <u>www.pdc.wa.gov</u>

November 8, 2024

Delivered electronically to Green Party of the United States at treasurer@gp.org

Subject: Complaint filed by Conner Edwards, PDC Case 158424

Bob Stuller:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Connor Edwards concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Conner Edwards, the PDC has dismissed this matter following RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

However, per WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), this serves as a formal written warning concerning the requirement under RCW 42.17A.250 for failing to timely and accurately report as an out-of-state political committee. Staff expects Green Party of the United States, moving forward, to follow all statutes and rules about reporting of expenditures supporting or opposing a Washington state candidate or political committee. If violations of PDC statutes or rules occur in the future, the Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action.

If you have questions, contact Alice Fiman at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely, Endorsed by,

/s/ Electronically signed

Alice Fiman, Peter Frey Lavallee

PDC Compliance Officer PDC Executive Director



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November 8, 2024

Delivered electronically to Conner Edwards at cg.edwards53@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Case 158424 Green Party of the United States

Dear Conner Edwards:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review and assessment of the complaint you filed on Aug. 9, 2024. The complaint alleged the Green Party of the United States may have violated RCW 42.17A.250 by failing to timely and accurately report as an out-of-state political committee.

PDC staff reviewed the allegation(s); the applicable statutes and rules, and reporting requirements; the response(s) provided by Bob Stuller, Treasurer, Green Party of the United States; the applicable PDC reports filed by the Green Party of the United States; and other relevant information, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- The Green Party of the United States is registered with the Federal Elections Commission under ID C00370221. Robert Stuller is listed as the Treasurer. There are no affiliations listed on its FEC registration.
- The complaint provided two C-3 reports from candidates registered with the PDC. Both reports listed contributions that included names that were alleged to be linked to the Green Party of the United States. The reports included:
 - A \$300 contribution made July 26, 2023 to Margaret Elisabeth, a 2023 Candidate for Seattle City Council.
 - o A \$900 contribution made July 23, 2024 to Andre Stackhouse, a 2024 Candidate for Governor.

- An Out-of-State Political Committee (C-5) Report is due no later than the 10th day of the month following any month in which a contribution or other expenditure of more than \$50 is made to or on behalf of a Washington state candidate or political committee.
- Stuller was notified of the complaint on Aug. 21, 2024, as well as the requirement to file the C-5 reports. Working with PDC Filer Assistance staff, Stuller filed two C-5 reports on Aug. 28, 2024, listing the two contributions made to Washington state candidates.
- The respondent does not have other similar warnings or violations of PDC requirements.
- Neither of the candidates advanced to the General Election.

Based on our findings staff has determined that, in this instance, failing to timely and accurately report as an out-of-state political committee does not amount to a violation that calls for further investigation.

Per WAC 390-37-060(1)(d), however, the Green Party of the United States will receive a formal written warning concerning the requirement under RCW 42.17A.250 for failing to timely and accurately report as an out-of-state political committee. Staff expects the Green Party of the United States, moving forward, to follow all statutes and rules about reporting of expenditures supporting or opposing a Washington state candidate or political committee. If violations of PDC statutes or rules occur in the future, the Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action necessary and has dismissed this matter per RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, contact Alice Fiman at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,	Endorsed by,
/s/ Electronically signed	/s/ Electronically signed
Alice Fiman	Peter Frey Lavallee
PDC Compliance Officer	PDC Executive Director