



**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: [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)**

October 8, 2025

Delivered electronically to [dereforkingcounty@gmail.com](mailto:dereforkingcounty@gmail.com) and [cg.edwards53@gmail.com](mailto:cg.edwards53@gmail.com)

Subject: PDC Case 175693 regarding Derek Chartrand

Dear Derek Chartrand:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint filed by Conner Edwards on July 11, 2025. The complaint alleged that Derek Chartrand (the “Respondent”) violated RCW 42.17A.235, .240 and .320 by failing to 1) timely and accurately report contributions and expenditures, specifically the May C-4 report; and 2) provide complete sponsor identification (ID) on his candidate website, specifically the sponsor’s address.

Applicable Laws and Rules

- Candidates that select the Full Reporting option on their *Candidate Registration* (C-1 report) are required to report contributions and expenditures to the PDC on *Cash Receipts Monetary Contributions* reports (C-3 reports) and *Campaign Summary Receipts & Expenditures* reports (C-4 reports) pursuant to [RCW 42.17A.235](#) & [RCW 42.17A.240](#). The due dates for these reports are based upon the election cycle, the candidate’s election participation<sup>1</sup>, and their financial activity<sup>2</sup>.
- Pursuant to [RCW 42.17A.240\(7\)](#), expenditures are disclosed on C-4 reports, which must include, but are not limited to: 1) the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure was made in the aggregate of more than \$200<sup>3</sup> during the period covered by the report; and 2) the amount,

---

<sup>1</sup> [RCW 42.17A.005\(38\)](#) defines “participate” to mean that, with respect to a particular election, an entity engages in one or more of the following activities: 1) makes a monetary or in-kind contribution to a candidate; 2) makes an independent expenditure or electioneering communication supporting or opposing a candidate; or 3) engages in an activity described in .005(38)(c), (d) or (e).

<sup>2</sup> Per [RCW 42.17A.235\(3\)\(a\)](#), each treasurer of a candidate committee is required to file a report on the tenth day of each month during which they are not participating in an election campaign only if the committee 1) received a contribution or made an expenditure in the preceding calendar month; and 2) either total contributions received or total expenditures made since the last such report exceed \$750. A candidate may delay filing monthly C-4 reports during periods when they are not participating in election until they have either received contributions or made expenditures that exceed \$750.

<sup>3</sup> Per [WAC 390-05-400](#), this dollar amount increased from \$50 to \$200 effective April 1, 2023.

date, and purpose of each expenditure. Expenditure details should include, but are not limited to, the name and address of the vendor or recipient, the goods or services provided, including the number of items purchased. An in-kind contribution is disclosed as an expenditure for purposes of campaign accounting and reporting.

- Per [RCW 42.17A.235\(10\)](#), if there is no pending complaint about a C-3 or C-4 report being amended and it meets the conditions set forth in .235(10)(a) through (d), it is not evidence of a violation to submit an amended report within 21 days of the original report.
- Pursuant to [RCW 42.17A.320](#), all written political advertising<sup>4</sup> must include the name and address of the sponsor<sup>5</sup>. Sponsor identification should appear on the first page or fold of the political advertising, be set apart from any other printed matter, and the font size used must be at least the larger of the following: 1) ten percent of the largest type used in the advertisement; or 2) ten-point type.

### Background and Findings

- The Respondent is a first-time candidate who sought election to the position of County Executive for King County in election year 2025. He filed a *Candidate Registration* (C-1 report) with the PDC on May 23, 2025, selected the Full Reporting option, and served as his own Treasurer. The Respondent participated in the August 5, 2025 Primary Election, and did not advance to the General Election.
- On July 16, 2025, the Respondent replied to the complaint by email saying it was his first time running for an office involving the PDC and asked for assistance filing reports. He said his campaign had raised less than \$2,000 from outside sources and he had loaned his candidate committee \$2,960.28 to pay the candidate filing fee. The Respondent indicated his belief that the 21-day pre-Primary C-4 report, which he submitted early, was most important. The Respondent also stated that he had instructed his web hosting provider to add his campaign's address to the sponsor ID on his website.
- On July 19, 2025, the Respondent notified PDC staff by email that he had 1) updated his website to include the sponsor's address; 2) amended the description for his in-kind loan on the May C-4 report; and 3) unintentionally disclosed a contribution of \$52.04 four days late because he thought it has already been reported.
- The Respondent supplemented his response to the complaint by email on July 21, 2025, saying: "I have never purposely attempted to conceal, disguise or mislead the financial operations of my

---

<sup>4</sup> Political advertising" is a mass communication used to appeal, directly or indirectly, for votes, financial or other support, or opposition to any election campaign that is intended to reach a large audience via a variety of methods. These methods include, but are not limited to, newspaper, radio and TV advertising, signs, billboards, brochures, fliers, and digital communications and online transmissions such as internet websites, social media, emails, and texts. [RCW 42.17A.005\(40\)](#) and [WAC 390-05-290\(3\)](#).

<sup>5</sup> For the purposes of political advertising, the "sponsor" is the person who paid for the advertising. If a person acts as an agent or is reimbursed for the payment, the original source of the payment is the sponsor.

low budget campaign.” He indicated the alleged late reporting and incomplete sponsor ID were the result of inexperience caused by his status as a first-time local candidate. The Respondent said he immediately remedied these issues upon being notified of the complaint and took proactive steps to 1) ensure all his campaign activity had been reported; and 2) minimize or eliminate any future filing errors. The Respondent reiterated that he had raised less than \$2,000 in outside donations to date, whereas one of his opponents had raised well over \$1,200,000.

- Late reporting included the May C-4 report, which was filed 31 days late, and two C-3 reports that were filed 18 and 4 days late respectively. All late reports were submitted before the Primary Election.
- All the remaining C-3 and C-4 reports filed by the campaign were submitted timely or early, including all pre- and post-election C-4 reports.
- The Respondent was cooperative throughout our assessment of the complaint and quickly took corrective action as needed.
- The Respondent does not have previous warnings/violations of PDC requirements.

### Summary and Resolution

Your noncompliance appears to be the result of good-faith omissions and a misunderstanding regarding monthly reporting deadlines, which are mitigated by your status as a first-time candidate, quick corrective action, and good-faith efforts to comply. The campaign’s relatively small size and modest expenditures, and the minimal impact your omissions had on the public are also mitigating factors.

However, pursuant to [WAC 390-37-060\(1\)\(d\)](#), this serves as a formal written warning concerning your failure to timely and accurately disclose all contributions and expenditures on PDC reports and provide complete sponsor ID on your candidate website. Staff expect you to timely file all required reports and provide complete sponsor ID in the future. The Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with [RCW 42.17A.755\(1\)](#).

If you have questions, you may contact Tabatha Blacksmith at 1-360-753-1111, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Electronically signed by Tabatha Blacksmith  
Tabatha Blacksmith  
Compliance Officer

Endorsed by,

Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee  
Peter Frey Lavallee  
Executive Director

cc: Conner Edwards