



**State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

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October 21, 2025

Delivered electronically to votehaysfordistrict5@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Case 175847 regarding Kelsi Hays

Kelsi Hays:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint filed July 16, 2025 by Conner Edwards.

The complaint alleged the following:

- 1) That the \$500 deposit of the candidate's personal funds does not appear on the C-4 as a contribution or deposit. Staff suggested that Hays amend her May C-4 to include the first part of the month when the personal funds were received.
- 2) That the Schedule A entry for the purchase of yard signs does not list the quantity of yard signs purchased. Staff informed Hays that the quantity purchased needs to be added to the amended C-4 report.
- 3) That the purchase of yard signs has been miscategorized as digital advertising. Staff informed Hays that the amended C-4 needs to include a selection of the yard signs category.
- 4) That the campaign website fails to include the required "Sponsor Identification" as required by [RCW 42.17A.320](#) and [WAC 390-18-010](#). Staff asked Hays to include the words "Paid for by" with the sponsor's name and mailing address and provided a link to the relevant rule for assistance.
- 5) That the campaign has not reported an expenditure or receipt of an in-kind contribution for the cost of the campaign post office box. Staff informed Hays that if she personally paid for the post office box, she should report the cost as an in-kind contribution from herself.
- 6) That the campaign has not reported an expenditure or receipt of an in-kind contribution from Hays for her candidate website or filing fee.

Applicable Laws and Rules

RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 - A committee that selects the Full Reporting option on its C-1 report is required to report contributions and expenditures to the PDC on C-3 reports and 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 committee's election participation, and their financial activity.

RCW 42.17A.320 requires sponsor identification to be included on political advertising. The sponsor identification is required to include the words "Paid for by" or "Sponsored by," followed by the name and mailing address of the sponsor. There are also size and visual contrast requirements. These include that the sponsor identification must be the larger of ten-point type or type that is at least ten percent of the largest size type used in an advertisement directed at more than one voter, such as a yard sign, not be subject to the half-tone or screening process and be set apart from any other printed matter.

Background and Findings

- Kelsi Hays was a first-time candidate in 2025, running for Tahoma School District No. 409, Director District No. 5. Hays did not advance to the general election.
- Hays filed a candidate registration on May 14, 2025, selecting the Full Reporting Option. Following receipt of the July 16 complaint, Hays filed an amended candidate registration on July 24, 2025, selecting the Mini Reporting Option.
- Hays responded to the complaint, stating she had resolved all of the issues identified in the complaint.

Concerning the six items listed in the complaint:

- 1) Concerning item 1, Hays deleted the contribution and reported all expenses as in-kind contributions on an amended C-4 report.
- 2) Concerning item 2, Hays removed the contribution and replaced it with an in-kind contribution. The number of signs purchased was included in the description of the in-kind contribution.
- 3) Concerning item 3, Hays removed the contribution and replaced it with an in-kind contribution that included the number of signs purchased in the description.
- 4) Concerning item 4, Hays added the requested sponsor identification.
- 5) Concerning item 5, an in-kind contribution for the cost of the campaign post office box has been reported.
- 6) Concerning item 6, Hays stated there is no filing fee for the position she was seeking.

Summary and Resolution

Kelsi Hays was a first-time candidate for Tahoma School District No. 409, Director District No. 5 who did not advance to the general election. Hays initially selected the Full Reporting Option but later amended her candidate registration to the Mini Reporting Option. Hays amended her reports to address the issues identified in the complaint and added sponsor identification to her campaign website.

Based on these findings, staff has determined that in this instance, initially filing incomplete C-3 and C-4 reports before switching to the Mini Reporting Option and failing to include sponsor identification on your website do not amount to a finding of a violation warranting further investigation.

However, staff is reminding you about the importance of following the reporting requirements for the reporting option selected and including sponsor identification on your website.

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

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

Sincerely,

Endorsed by,

Electronically signed by Phil Stutzman

Phil Stutzman
Compliance Officer

Electronically signed by Kim Bradford

Kim Bradford
Deputy Director
For Peter Frey Lavalley
Executive Director

cc: Conner Edwards