



**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)**

November 17, 2025

Delivered electronically to [savewescom@gmail.com](mailto:savewescom@gmail.com) , [jennhartzell@yahoo.com](mailto:jennhartzell@yahoo.com) and [cg.edwards53@gmail.com](mailto:cg.edwards53@gmail.com)

Subject: PDC Case 176155 regarding Walla Walla “FIRST - First Responders” Committee

Dear Walla Walla “FIRST - First Responders” Committee:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint filed by Conner Edwards (the “Complainant”) on July 16, 2025. The complaint alleged that Walla Walla “FIRST – First Responders” Committee (the “Respondent”) violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 by failing to file reports disclosing contributions and expenditures, specifically pre-Primary election C-4 reports. As evidence of election participation, the Complainant referenced the Respondent’s PDC registration wherein the committee indicated their intention to support a ballot proposition in the 2025 Primary Election.

Applicable Laws and Rules

- A political committee is required to register with the PDC by filing a *Political Committee Registration* (C-1pc report). A committee that selects the Full Reporting option on their C-1pc report is required to disclose 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<sup>1</sup>, and their financial activity.
- Per RCW 42.17A.235(2), a committee is required to file C-4 reports based on the following accelerated reporting schedule for each election in which they are participating:

---

<sup>1</sup> “Participation” means, 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 or a committee for the purpose of supporting or opposing an election-related matter (e.g. ballot measure); 2) makes an independent expenditure or electioneering communication supporting or opposing a candidate or ballot proposition; or 3) engages in an activity described in .005(38)(c), (d) or (e). [RCW 42.17A.005\(38\)](#).

- On the 21st day and 7th day immediately preceding the date on which the election is held. The pre-election reports should disclose all contributions received and expenditures made as of the end of one business day before the date of the report.
- On the 10th day of the first full month after the election. The post-election report should disclose all contributions received and expenditures made from the closing date of the last report filed through the last day of the month preceding the date of the report.
- Committees may file monthly C-4 reports, due by the 10th day of the following month, for those months during which they are not participating in an election. RCW 42.17A.235(3(a)).
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.235(5), committees are required to file C-3 reports on an accelerated weekly reporting schedule beginning on the first day of the fifth month before the date of the General Election (e.g. June 1st) and ending on the date of the General Election. The weekly C-3 reports should be filed each Monday and disclose bank deposits of monetary contributions made during the previous seven calendar days (Mon.-Sun.), regardless of financial activity. Special Elections are subject to a different accelerated C-3 reporting schedule.

### Background and Findings

- The Respondent is a local ballot measure committee that registered with the PDC in April of 2025 and selected the Full Reporting option on their C-1pc report. On the report, the committee stated their intention to support a Walla Walla County ballot measure in the 2025 Primary Election. The officers listed on the registration are Lisa Denney, Campaign and Ministerial Treasurer, Dana Hood, Co-Chair, and Jennifer Hartzell, Campaign Manager.
- Walla Walla County Proposition 1 Emergency Communication Systems and Facilities Sales and Use Tax (“Prop. 1”) appeared on the ballot for — and was passed by voters in — the 2025 Primary Election.
- Starting in late July 2025, PDC staff made multiple unsuccessful attempts to reach the Respondent by email and telephone regarding the complaint and their lack of reports.
  - Jennifer Hartzell returned the PDC’s call on October 16, 2025 and said she 1) had been away in training for the last few months; and 2) did not think anyone had been checking the committee’s email.
  - Ms. Hartzell indicated the Respondent had received a single contribution and made a single expenditure for stickers<sup>2</sup>. Based on this information, PDC staff instructed the

---

<sup>2</sup> A first responder who supported Prop. 1 by managing a Facebook page (which did not receive or expend any funds) confirmed that he helped the officers of the Respondent committee distribute black and yellow yard signs but said he does not know who sponsored (paid for) the signs. Ms. Hartzell indicated the black and yellow yard signs were purchased independently by someone else and confirmed the Respondent committee did not pay for them. She said they would try to learn more about the signs but, to date, no other information is available regarding their sponsor.

committee to file a C-3 report disclosing the contribution and a C-4 report disclosing the expenditure.

- The Respondent does not have previous warnings/violations of PDC requirements.

### Summary and Resolution

The presumably relatively modest dollar amount of the unreported expenditure for stickers made by your relatively small and unsophisticated campaign are mitigating factors. However, your failure to timely and adequately respond to the complaint and address noncompliance by filing the requested reports are aggravating factors.

Failure to file a C-3 report and C-4 report disclosing a single contribution and a single presumably modest expenditure does not amount to violation that warrants further investigation. After consideration of these circumstances, further proceedings would not serve the purposes of this chapter.

However, pursuant to [WAC 390-37-060\(1\)\(d\)](#), this serves as a formal written warning concerning your failure to disclose all contributions and expenditures on reports as required. PDC staff expect you to timely file all required reports of contributions and expenditures 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 by the committee or its officers.

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