

Kyle Yancey

*(Thu, 4 Sep 2025 at 1:38 PM)*

**Kyle J Yancey**

15521 W. Charles Road  
Nine Mile Falls, WA 99026  
September 4, 2025

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Public Disclosure Commission  
711 Capitol Way South, Suite 206  
Olympia, WA 98504

**Subject: Formal Complaint Regarding Candidate Filing Communications Process**

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing as an elected School Board Director in Washington State, currently seeking re-election. While I accept responsibility for filing requirements, I must raise serious concerns about the PDC's communications process. That process has now resulted in a \$200 fine against me for a volunteer position.

I acknowledge that I did not file the Candidate Campaign Declaration in time. However, I did not willfully ignore this responsibility. All PDC notifications were delivered to my junk email folder. I did not discover this until the end of August, and the moment I read the first message that reached me, I immediately called my PDC representative, Collin, to clarify and correct the situation. This demonstrates I was not trying to evade responsibility. I simply was not being reached by the Commission in a way I could see. It was not until reminders began arriving at my other email address, which proves the PDC was capable of finding alternate contact methods when it suited them. At no point did anyone from the PDC attempt to call me directly, despite my phone number being publicly available and on record. When I asked why the Commission does not make phone calls before issuing fines, I was told there were over 500 people in the same situation. That only underscores my point: this is not an isolated mistake by one candidate, it is evidence of a systemic flaw that the Commission has chosen to tolerate rather than fix.

As a result, I am left questioning:

- Why does the PDC rely exclusively on automated emails, knowing how easily they are filtered or lost?
- If hundreds of candidates are experiencing the same problem, why has no corrective action been taken to improve communication and prevent avoidable penalties?
- Why is the process designed in a way that disproportionately punishes volunteer public servants who serve their communities without compensation, rather than ensuring compliance through proactive support?

I will pay the \$200 fine because I recognize the rule and the ultimate responsibility lies with me as a candidate. But I find it unacceptable that a state body entrusted with ensuring transparency and accountability operates in a way that fails its own standard of fairness.

I request that the PDC conduct a review of its notification and compliance process. A system that hides behind emails and then penalizes candidates when those emails go unseen undermines both trust and

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accessibility. Public service should not be discouraged by bureaucratic tripwires, especially for volunteer positions that already demand time, energy, and sacrifice without compensation.

I urge you to consider whether the mission of the PDC is better served by fostering compliance through better communication or by collecting fines from candidates blindsided by flawed processes.

Sincerely,

Kyle J Yancey

School Board Director, Nine Mile Falls School District