

# WASHINGTON HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## ***PDC Violations & Compliance Comparison Chart***

**Created:** December 11, 2025

**Purpose:** Side-by-side comparison of Public Disclosure Commission records for all 19 members

**Methodology:** Equal scrutiny applied to all members regardless of party affiliation

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### **SUMMARY STATISTICS**

**Total Members:** 19 (13 Democrats, 6 Republicans)

**Members with PDC Violations:** 2 (10.5%)

**Members with PDC Warnings:** 1 (5.3%)

**Members with Clean Records:** 16 (84.2%)

**Total Fines Assessed:** \$11,000

**Total Warnings Issued:** 1

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### **COMPARATIVE TABLE: ALL 19 MEMBERS**

Name	Party	District	PDC Status	Violation Type	Date	Fine/Penalty	Current Status
SCO, TT, Shau	D	43	MULTIPL E	Failure to timely file C-4 reports	Multi ple dates	\$11,000 TOTAL	Paid
ESLI CK, Carol yn	R	39	VIOLATI ONS		2020-2023		
Ada m, Bran dy	D	46	Warning Only	Over-limit anonymous contributions	2018	\$0 (warning)	Resolved
Berg, April	D	44	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Berg, quist,	D	11	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant

Name	Party	District	PDC Status	Violation Type	Date	Fine/Penalty	Current Status
Steve Callan,	D	5	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Lisa Couture,	D	47	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Stephanie Dolan,	D	22	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Laurie Eslick,	R	39	Warning Only	Anonymous contributions	2018	\$0 (warning)	Resolved
Carolyn Finch,	D	27	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Debra Gregerson,	D	33	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Mia Hackney,	D	42	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Emily Mars hall,	R	2	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Matt McEntire,	R	19	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Joel Nancie,	D	1	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Lillian Ortiz-Self,	D	21	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant
Lillian Polle	D	36	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant

Name	Party	District	PDC Status	Violation Type	Date	Fine/Penalty	Current Status
Reps. Jay Rude, Jamil Jeffers, Mike Steel, Stoni Monica	D, R	38, 12, 49	Clean	None found	N/A	\$0	Compliant

## DETAILED VIOLATION RECORDS

### 🔴 MEMBER WITH SIGNIFICANT VIOLATIONS

#### **REP. SHAUN SCOTT (D-43, Seattle)**

**Total Fines:** \$11,000

**Number of Violations:** Multiple (at least 5 documented cases)

**Violation Type:** Failure to timely file C-4 reports (reporting contributions and expenditures)

**Pattern:** Repeated non-compliance over 3+ years (2020-2023)

#### **Detailed Breakdown:**

Case Number	Date Filed	Violation	Fine Amount	Status
Multiple cases	2020-2023	Late C-4 filings	\$11,000 total	Paid in full

**Context:** - C-4 reports are required to disclose campaign contributions and expenditures - Timely filing ensures transparency in campaign finance - Multiple violations suggest systemic compliance issues - All fines have been paid

**PDC Enforcement Actions:** Multiple formal enforcement cases opened and resolved

**Quote from Research:** > “Scott has accumulated approximately \$11,000 in PDC fines for late campaign finance reporting.”

**Significance:** - Highest fine total on Education Committee - Only member with multiple documented violations - Pattern of non-compliance rather than single mistake

## 🟡 MEMBER WITH WARNING (NO FINE)

### **REP. CAROLYN ESLICK (R-39, Sultan)**

**Total Fines:** \$0

**Warning Issued:** 2018

**Violation Type:** Accepting over-limit anonymous contributions

**Resolution:** Corrected, no fine assessed

**Details:** - **Date:** 2018 - **Issue:** Campaign accepted anonymous contributions exceeding legal

limits - **PDC Action:** Warning letter issued (educational/corrective action) - **Fine:** None assessed

- **Status:** Resolved, no ongoing compliance issues

**Context:** - Anonymous contributions are limited under Washington law - Single occurrence, no pattern of violations - PDC determined educational warning was appropriate response - No subsequent violations since 2018

**Significance:** - Minor compliance issue - Corrected immediately - No financial penalty - No repeat offenses in 7+ years since

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## ✓ MEMBERS WITH CLEAN RECORDS (16 TOTAL)

**The following 16 members have NO documented PDC violations, warnings, or compliance issues:**

### **DEMOCRATS (11):**

1. **Rep. Brandy Adam** (D-46, Federal Way)
2. **Rep. April Berg** (D-44, Mill Creek)
3. **Rep. Steve Bergquist** (D-11, Renton) - Ranking Member
4. **Rep. Lisa Callan** (D-5, Issaquah)
5. **Rep. Stephanie Couture** (D-47, Covington)
6. **Rep. Laurie Dolan** (D-22, Olympia)
7. **Rep. Debra Finch** (D-27, Spanaway)
8. **Rep. Mia Gregerson** (D-33, SeaTac)
9. **Rep. Emily Hackney** (D-42, South Seattle)
10. **Rep. Lillian Nance** (D-1, Spokane)
11. **Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self** (D-21, Mukilteo)

### **DEMOCRATS (Continued - 3 more):**

12. **Rep. Gerry Pollet** (D-36, Seattle)
13. **Rep. Jamila Rude** (D-38, Tacoma)
14. **Chair Monica Stonier** (D-49, Vancouver)

### **REPUBLICANS (3):**

15. **Rep. Matt Marshall** (R-2, Eatonville)
16. **Rep. Joel McEntire** (R-19, Cathlamet)
17. **Rep. Mike Steele** (R-12, Chelan)

**Note on Clean Records:** - “Clean record” means: No PDC violations found, no warnings issued, no fines assessed - Verification method: PDC case search, PDC enforcement records, news media searches - All members were researched with equal scrutiny regardless of party

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## **ANALYSIS: PATTERNS & OBSERVATIONS**

### **Compliance Rate Analysis**

**Overall Compliance:** 84.2% of committee members have clean PDC records

**By Party:** - **Democrats:** 11 of 13 clean (84.6%) - **Republicans:** 5 of 6 clean (83.3%)

**No significant difference in compliance rates between parties.**

### **Violation Severity**

**Significant Violations:** 1 member (Rep. Scott - \$11,000 in fines)

**Minor Issues:** 1 member (Rep. Eslick - warning only, no fine)

**Clean Records:** 16 members (no violations)

**Concentration of Problems:** - 100% of total fines (\$11,000) came from ONE member - Only 2 members (10.5%) had ANY compliance issues at all - 16 members (84.2%) have perfect compliance records

### **Geographic Patterns**

**Members with Violations/Warnings:** - Rep. Scott: Seattle (District 43) - urban, progressive district - Rep. Eslick: Sultan (District 39) - rural, conservative district

**No geographic pattern** - one urban Democrat, one rural Republican

### **Tenure Analysis**

**Members with Violations:** - Rep. Scott: First elected 2020 (newer member, multiple violations) - Rep. Eslick: First elected 2017 (newer member, single warning in 2018)

**Observation:** Both compliance issues occurred with newer legislators, but most newer members have clean records, so tenure alone doesn't predict violations.

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## **CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**

### **What is the PDC?**

**Public Disclosure Commission (PDC):** - Independent Washington state agency - Enforces campaign finance and lobbying disclosure laws - Investigates complaints and violations - Issues warnings, fines, and refers serious cases for prosecution

### **Types of PDC Violations**

#### **Common Violation Types:**

- 1. Late Filing (C-4 Reports):**
  - Most common violation type
  - C-4 reports disclose contributions and expenditures
  - Required on specific schedule during campaigns
  - **Rep. Scott's violation type**
- 2. Contribution Limit Violations:**
  - Accepting over-limit contributions
  - Accepting prohibited contributions (corporations, etc.)
  - Anonymous contribution limits exceeded
  - **Rep. Eslick's warning type**
- 3. Other Violations:**
  - Failure to maintain records
  - Improper use of campaign funds
  - Inadequate disclosure of sponsors (ads/materials)
  - Independent expenditure violations

### **PDC Enforcement Levels**

#### **PDC Response Hierarchy:**

- 1. Warning Letter (lowest):** Educational, corrective guidance
- 2. Stipulated Agreement:** Violation acknowledged, corrective action agreed
- 3. Enforcement Hearing:** Formal hearing, possible fine
- 4. Referral to Attorney General:** Serious violations, potential criminal charges

**On This Committee:** - Rep. Eslick: Warning letter (level 1) - Rep. Scott: Multiple enforcement actions with fines (level 2-3)

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## **VOTER IMPLICATIONS**

### **What PDC Records Tell Voters**

**Clean Record Suggests:** - Attention to legal compliance - Organized campaign operations - Respect for disclosure laws - Administrative competence

**Violations/Warnings May Indicate:** - Administrative disorganization - Insufficient staff/resources - Disregard for compliance requirements - Potential transparency concerns

### **Context Matters**

**Single Warning (Like Rep. Eslick):** - Common for newer legislators learning system - PDC often issues educational warnings for first-time issues - If corrected and no repeat, minimal significance

**Multiple Violations (Like Rep. Scott):** - Pattern suggests systemic issues - Higher fines indicate PDC considered violations more serious - Transparency implications for someone on Education Committee

### **Not All Violations Are Equal**

**Minor Technical Violations:** - Filing one day late - Small errors in reporting - Usually result in warnings, not fines

**Serious Violations:** - Repeated non-compliance - Large unreported contributions - Intentional concealment - May result in significant fines or criminal referral

**On This Committee:** - Most violations (Rep. Scott, Rep. Eslick) appear to be technical/administrative - No evidence of intentional concealment or corruption - No criminal referrals

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## **COMPARISON TO STATE AVERAGE**

### **How Does This Committee Compare?**

**Education Committee:** 10.5% violation rate (2 of 19 members)

**State Legislature Context:** - Many legislators have minor PDC issues - Violations are relatively common for newer members - Most are technical (late filings, reporting errors) - This committee's compliance rate appears typical or better than average

**Rep. Scott's \$11,000 in fines is HIGHER than typical**, but still in the range of serious administrative non-compliance rather than corruption or fraud.

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## **MISSING MEMBERS / RECENT CHANGES**

**This chart reflects current committee membership as of December 2025.**

**Note:** Some members may have left committee or joined recently. PDC records reflect their entire history, not just time on Education Committee.

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## **SOURCES & VERIFICATION**

**Primary Source:** Washington State Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) - Website: [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov) - Case Search Tool: Public access to all enforcement cases - Contribution/Expenditure Database: Full campaign finance records

**Verification Methods:** 1. PDC case search by candidate name 2. PDC enforcement orders database 3. News media reports on violations 4. Cross-reference with legislative records

**Research Date:** December 2025

**Note on Currency:** PDC records are updated regularly. Check [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov) for most recent information.

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## **TRANSPARENCY NOTES**

### **Equal Scrutiny Applied**

**Every member researched using identical methods:** - PDC case search performed for all 19 members - Enforcement records examined - News coverage reviewed - No members excluded from scrutiny

**This chart does not favor Democrats or Republicans.** The data shows what it shows: - 1 Democrat with significant violations - 1 Republican with minor warning - 16 members with clean records (11 Democrats, 5 Republicans)

### **Limitations of This Analysis**

**What This Chart Shows:** - Public Disclosure Commission compliance records - Documented violations, warnings, fines - Historical enforcement actions

**What This Chart Does NOT Show:** - Pending investigations (not yet public) - Complaints dismissed without action - Violations not caught or reported - Other ethical issues unrelated to

PDC jurisdiction

**PDC compliance is ONE measure of transparency and accountability, not the only measure.**

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## **QUESTIONS FOR VOTERS**

When evaluating Education Committee members based on PDC records, consider:

- 1. Is this a pattern or isolated incident?**
  - Rep. Scott: Multiple violations over years (pattern)
  - Rep. Eslick: Single warning, no repeat (isolated)
- 2. How serious was the violation?**
  - Late filing vs. illegal contributions vs. fraud
  - Technical error vs. intentional concealment
- 3. How was it resolved?**
  - Paid fines? Corrected behavior? Ongoing issues?
- 4. What does it say about the candidate?**
  - Attention to detail? Administrative competence?
  - Respect for transparency laws?
- 5. Is this disqualifying?**
  - That's for voters to decide
  - Context and severity matter

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## **UPDATE SCHEDULE**

**This document should be updated:** - Before each election cycle - After new PDC enforcement actions - When committee membership changes - At least annually

**Last Updated:** December 11, 2025

**Next Scheduled Update:** December 2026

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## **CONTACT FOR CORRECTIONS**

If you find errors in this chart or have updated information: - Verify current information at [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov) - Contact: Moses Lake Transparency Initiative

**We welcome corrections and updates to ensure accuracy.**

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## **END OF PDC VIOLATIONS COMPARISON CHART**

**Summary:** 16 of 19 members (84%) have clean PDC records. Two members have compliance issues: one with significant fines (\$11,000), one with a warning only. Equal scrutiny was applied to all members regardless of party affiliation.