

## 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 • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

March 11, 2021

Joan Young 5526 302<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE Carnation, WA 98014

And delivered electronically to joaney57@yahoo.com and younghk22@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Order, Case 80272

Dear Joan Young,

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Disclosure Commission's Final Order on Request for Review that was entered in the above-referenced case. At the February 25, 2021 Review hearing, the Commission vacated the \$250 civil penalty assessed at the December 17, 2020 Brief Enforcement Hearing in accordance with WAC 390-37-143. As a result, no civil penalty is due.

If you have questions, please contact us by email at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed by Tabatha Blacksmith PDC Staff

Enclosure: Final Order

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: The Matter of Enforcement Action Against:

PDC CASE NO. 80272

FINAL ORDER ON REQUEST FOR REVIEW

JOAN YOUNG,

Respondent.

This matter was heard remotely by the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission (Commission) on February 25, 2021, by telephonic and online streaming access. Joan Young (Respondent), through her daughter Heather Young, requested review of the Presiding Officer's Order issued on December 17, 2020, following a Brief Enforcement Hearing (Brief Adjudicative Proceeding) in this matter. The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37 WAC.

Commissioners present both telephonically and online were Fred Jarrett, Commission Chair (presiding); Nancy Isserlis, Commission Vice-Chair; Commissioner Bill Downing; and Commissioner Russell Lehman. Also present both telephonically and online were Assistant Attorney General John S. Meader representing the Commission, Assistant Attorney General Chad Standifer, representing PDC Staff, Tabatha Blacksmith, PDC Compliance Coordinator, and Respondent's daughter Heather Young appearing on her mother's behalf. The proceeding was open to the public as limited by Governor's Proclamation 20-28 et seq. and recorded.

The Commissioners had before them the following materials:

1. Case memorandum dated February 25, 2021, prepared by Tabatha Blacksmith, PDC

Compliance Coordinator;

- 2. Brief Enforcement Hearing Notice, PDC Case 80272, served November 17, 2020;
- 3. Initial Order Imposing Fine, entered December 17, 2020, and served January 11, 2021;
- 4. PDC staff email, dated January 13, 2021, pursuant to verbal request for review;
- 6. Review Enforcement Hearing Notice, served February 11, 2021.

## I. FINDINGS OF FACT

The matter involved Respondent's request that the Commission reconsider an Initial Order issued on January 11, 2021, resulting from an Initial Hearing on December 17, 2020, regarding Joan Young, a Hospital Commissioner for King County Public Hospital District 4 for the term January 1, 2019, through April 11, 2019. The Respondent has no prior violations with the PDC. The Presiding Officer at the Brief Adjudicative Proceeding found the Respondent in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 Report) no later than April 15, 2020, as required. At the December 17, 2020, Brief Enforcement Hearing an Order imposing a \$250 penalty was entered, which the Respondent requests the Commission review.

On behalf of Joan Young, Respondent's daughter stated that her mother has significant health issues that prevented her from filing the required forms. She also stated the \$250 penalty would constitute a financial hardship to both her and her mother.

1. Between February and May of 2020, PDC staff attempted to contact the Respondent by sending nine email reminders to elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2019. These reminders were sent to the contact emails provided by filers on their PDC reports. From July 27, 2020, through October 7, 2020, PDC staff also began contacting elected and appointed officials by phone regarding their missing reports.

- 2. On July 17, 2020, PDC staff sent warning letters by electronic and U.S. mail to elected and appointed officials informing them of how to avoid potential enforcement and fines. The warning letters were mailed to the addresses provided by filers on their PDC reports.
- 3. A Hearing Notice was mailed to the Respondent to her address of record on November 17, 2020, for a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) to be held December 17, 2020.
- 4. At the Brief Enforcement Hearing on December 17, 2020, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and was assessed a \$250 penalty consistent with WAC 390-37-143, the Brief Enforcement Hearing penalty schedule adopted by the Commission.
- 6. On January 11, 2020, PDC staff served the Initial Order memorializing the Commission's ruling by electronic mail and U.S. mail to the contact email address and U.S. mail address provided by the Respondent.
- 7. On January 13, 2021, the Respondent's daughter contacted PDC staff by phone to appeal the January 11, 2020 Order. She stated the Respondent has a significant health issue that prevented her from timely filing the F-1 report and it would be a hardship for her to pay the \$250 civil penalty.
- 9. PDC staff served Respondent and her daughter by electronic mail with a hearing notice on February 11, 2021, for the February 25, 2021 Review Hearing.

1 On February 24, 2021, the Respondent's F-1 report covering calendar year 2019 2 10. 3 was filed with the PDC. The report also included the Respondent's 2020 activity 4 through the end of her term of office. 5 II. **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW** 6 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to Chapter 7 42.17A RCW, the State campaign finance and disclosure law; Chapter 34.05 RCW, the 8 Administrative procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC. 9 10 III. **ORDER** 11 As a result of Respondent's significant health issues and her daughter's filing of the F-1 12 reports for 2019 and 2020 prior to the Review Hearing, the Findings of Fact, and the Conclusions 13 of Law, the \$250 civil penalty assessed at the December 17, 2020, Initial Hearing is VACATED. 14 This Order on Review is the Final Order. 15 SO ORDERED this 11th day of March, 2021. 16 17 18 WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION 19 FOR THE COMMISSION: 20 21 to arrest 22 23 Fred Jarrett, Chair, Public Disclosure Commission 24 25 26

1 2 3 4 5 I, Tabatha Blacksmith, certify that I emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at his respective email address. 6 This order sent by email to: Electronically signed Tabatha Blacksmith 3/11/21 7 Signed Date Heather Young, on behalf of the Respondent 8 Younghk22@gmail.com 9 Tabatha Blacksmith, 10 PDC Compliance Coordinator Tabatha.Blacksmith@pdc.wa.gov 11 12 13 14 **NOTICE: PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW** You have the right to appeal this Final Order to Superior Court, pursuant to the Petition for 15 Judicial Review provisions of RCW 34.05.542. Any Petition for Judicial Review of this Final 16 Order must be filed with the court and also served upon both the Commission and the Office of 17 the Attorney general within thirty (30) days after the date this Final Order is served upon you. 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26