

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

July 19, 2021

Delivered electronically to bc6mckay@gmail.com

Subject: Complaint filed by Charles Torelli, PDC Case 89531

Dear William McKay, Sr.:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Charles Torelli concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

If you have questions, contact Alice Fiman at (360) 586-4746, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,	Endorsed by,
/s	/s
Alice Fiman	Kim Bradford
Compliance Officer	Deputy Director
-	For Peter Lavallee
	Executive Director



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July 19, 2021

Delivered electronically to chuckinkennewick@icloud.com

Subject: Complaint regarding William McKay Sr., PDC Case 89531

Dear Charles Torelli:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint you filed April 28, 2021. The complaint alleged William McKay, Sr., a member of the Kennewick City Council, may have violated RCW 42.17A.710 by failing to accurately disclose personal financial information on the Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1).

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements, exhibits provided in the complaint, the applicable PDC reports filed by William McKay, Sr., and the response from William McKay, Sr., to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- William D. McKay, Sr. first registered with PDC May 25, 2017, declaring candidacy for City of Kennewick City Council Member, selecting the Full Reporting Option.
- William D. McKay, Sr. was elected to the Kennewick City Council, with his term expiring in 2021. He is a current candidate for the same position.
- Personal financial information is disclosed by candidates at the start of a campaign and annually by elected officials, state boards and commissions members, state agency directors, and legislative and gubernatorial professional staff. This allows the public to assess whether officials may have conflicts of interest.
- RCW 42.17A.710 requires state, local, and judicial candidates to file the information with the PDC on a Personal Financial Affairs Statement within two weeks of becoming a candidate. The candidate is required to report information covering 12 months prior to the campaign start date.
- Officials are then required to file annual F-1 reports each year by April 15, with the information filed covering the previous calendar year.

- The complaint alleged William McKay, Sr. failed to disclose information on F-1 reports.
- Working with PDC filer assistance staff, William McKay Sr. amended his F-1 reports covering calendar years 2017, 2019 and 2020.
- In response, William McKay, Sr. stated the F-1 he filed after first declaring his candidacy was accurate, however he admitted the need to update the F-1 he filed in March 2018, which covered all financial information for 2017. He noted the property located at 2652 W. 15th Ave., Kennewick, WA "was purchased on September 5, 2017 which was approximately 4 months after the filing date in 2017, so the property couldn't have been listed that year. When the property was purchased, it was placed in my name for tax purposes. After the tax required one-year period I began the process of changing the ownership into an LLC due to the personal liability protection it provides. There was no actual sale of the property, only a transfer. With the changeover of the reporting system at the PDC I had a difficult time figuring out how to report the change. There was no scheme, as implied by Mr. Torreli to hide the property or any of the actions taken with the property. Just simply was not able to figure out the revised reporting system concerning the transfer and then over looked reporting it."
- In response to the allegations regarding failing to list information on F-1 reports filed in 2020, William McKay, Sr. stated "The same is true with missing the addition of listing our home in 2020 for the year 2019. Where it had been listed in prior years, I assumed it would carry forward, but apparently it didn't. It should all be correct now and I will be diligent in the future to make sure it is correct."

Based on these findings staff has determined, in this instance, the allegation of failing to accurately disclose personal financial information on the Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1), does not amount to a violation warranting further investigation.

The Campaign made minor or ministerial errors on required reports, which did not materially impact the public interest. Upon notification of these errors, William McKay, Sr. timely amended reports, making the necessary technical corrections as requested by staff.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, contact Alice Fiman at 1-360-586-4746 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

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