

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

Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Tabitha Townsend, Compliance Coordinator 2

Date: October 7, 2021

Subject: Dennis Carpenter; PDC Case 95341; Review Hearing

Matter for Review:

During a Brief Enforcement Hearing held on August 12, 2021, Dennis Carpenter was found to have violated RCW 42.17A.205 and .700 for failure to timely file a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) and a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021. At the August 12, 2021 Brief Enforcement Hearing, an Order imposing a \$500 penalty was entered, which Dennis Carpenter now requests the Commission review.

Background:

- Dennis Carpenter (the "Respondent") is or was a candidate for City Council Member for City of Hoquiam during the 2021 election cycle.
- The Respondent has no prior violations of RCW 42.17A.205 or RCW 42.17A.700 with the PDC.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.205 and .700, a candidate in the 2021 election cycle was required to file a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) and a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021.
- On July 20, 2021, PDC staff emailed the Respondent a hearing notice for a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) to be held on August 12, 2021. The hearing notice was sent to the Respondent's email address-of-record.

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- At the Brief Enforcement Hearing held on August 12, 2021, the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.205 & .700 for failure to file the C-1 and F-1 reports within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021, and was assessed a \$500 penalty, consistent with WAC 390-37-143, the Brief Enforcement Hearing penalty schedule adopted by the Commission.
- On September 13, 2021, PDC staff served the Initial Order memorializing the Commission's ruling, by email and mail, to the contact email address and mailing address-of-record.
- On July 19, 2021, the Respondent reached out to PDC Staff requesting to terminate his campaign and emailed a photograph of his termination form to the PDC.
- On August 19, 2021, PDC Staff received a paper copy of the Respondent's termination form and updated his record to reflect a July 19, 2021 termination date.

Request for Review:

- On September 22, 2021, the Respondent called PDC Staff to request a review of his September 13, 2021 Initial Order based upon the fact that he terminated his campaign prior to being issued a Hearing notice for the Brief Enforcement Hearing.
- PDC staff recommends the Commission vacate the September 13, 2021 Order.