

State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator

Date: October 28, 2021

Subject: Jean Jones; PDC Case 95383; Review Hearing

Matter for Review:

During a Brief Enforcement Hearing held on August 12, 2021, Jean Jones was found to have violated RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to timely file a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) and RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) no later than June 4, 2021. At the August 12, 2021 Brief Enforcement Hearing, an Order imposing a \$300 penalty, with \$100 suspended, was entered, which Jean Jones now requests the Commission review.

Background:

- Jean Jones (the "Respondent") is a candidate for School Director of Kiona Benton SD 052 during election year 2021. She is a first-time candidate.
- The Respondent has no prior violations with the PDC.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.205, a candidate for election year 2021 was required to file a C-1 report within two weeks of candidacy or no later than June 4, 2021.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, a candidate for election year 2021 was required to file an F-1 report, disclosing financial information for the prior twelve months, within two weeks of candidacy or no later than June 4, 2021.
- In May and June of 2021, PDC staff sent email reminders to all candidates for election year 2021 regarding their missing C-1 report, F-1 report, or both.
- On June 17, 2021, PDC staff emailed the Respondent a warning notice regarding the missing C-1 and F-1 reports. The notice was sent to the Respondent's email address-of-record.

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- 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.
- The Respondent filed the C-1 report on July 24, 2021.
- At the Brief Enforcement Hearing held on August 12, 2021, the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.205 and .700 for failure to timely file the C-1 and F-1 reports no later than June 4, 2021, and was assessed a \$300 penalty, consistent with WAC 390-37-143, the Brief Enforcement Hearing penalty schedule adopted by the Commission. The Presiding Officer suspended \$100 of the \$300 penalty conditioned upon the Respondent filing the missing C-1 and F-1 reports and paying the non-suspended \$200 penalty within 30 days of the Initial Order being entered.
- The Respondent filed the F-1 report covering the prior twelve months on August 4, 2021.
- On September 15, 2021, PDC staff served the September 13, 2021 Initial Order memorializing the Commission's ruling, by email, to the Respondent's email address-ofrecord.

Request for Review:

- On October 1, 2021, the Respondent submitted written materials to PDC staff appealing the September 13, 2021 Initial Order based upon the facts that she 1) is a first-time candidate and was unaware of the filing requirement until June 14, 2021; 2) filed the reports after she received notice from the PDC; and 3) was unable to attend the August 12 hearing due to a medical appointment.
- On October 18, 2021, PDC staff served the Respondent, by email, with a hearing notice for an October 28, 2021 Review Hearing before the Public Disclosure Commission, along with instructions on how to participate in the hearing remotely. The notice was sent to the Respondent's email address-of-record.