



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A

CITIZENS FOR STANWOOD-
CAMANO SCHOOLS

Respondent.

PDC Case 107715

Findings of Fact,
Conclusions of Law, and
Order Imposing Fine

Pursuant to the notice of brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) sent to Citizens for Stanwood-Camano Schools on September 29, 2022, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on October 20, 2022, remotely from Olympia, WA by live audio and online transmission. The purpose of the hearing was to consider whether the Respondent violated: (1) RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to file a Committee Registration statement (C-1pc report); and (2) RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 for failure to timely and accurately file Monetary Contribution reports (C-3 reports) and Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports), disclosing contributions and expenditures undertaken by the committee.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW, 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commissioner Fred Jarrett was the Presiding Officer and Commissioner Nancy Isserlis attended. The Commission staff was represented by Compliance Coordinators Tabitha Townsend and Jordan Campbell, and Compliance Officers Jennifer Hansen and Erick Agina. Mr. John Russell participated in the hearing remotely on behalf of the Respondent and provided verbal testimony.

Having considered the evidence, the Presiding Officer finds as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Citizens for Stanwood-Camano Schools has been registered with the PDC at least four times in the past, during calendar years 2008, 2012, 2013 and 2017.
2. Citizens for Stanwood-Camano Schools participated in the April 26, 2022 special election by receiving contributions and making expenditures to support the Stanwood-Camano School District #401 Replacement Capital Projects and Technology Levy (Proposition #1).

3. On April 26, 2022, PDC staff received a complaint filed by Tom Miller alleging that Citizens for Stanwood-Camano Schools, an April 26, 2022 special election committee, violated: (1) RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to file a Committee Registration statement (C-1pc report); and (2) RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 for failure to timely and accurately file Monetary Contribution reports (C-3 reports) and Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports), disclosing contributions and expenditures undertaken by the committee.
4. On July 25, 2022, John Russell submitted a written response on behalf of Citizens for Stanwood-Camano Schools for PDC Case #107715.
5. After conducting a preliminary review and assessment of the complaint filed by Tom Miller on April 26, 2022, PDC staff opened a formal investigation and held an Initial Hearing (Case Status Review Hearing) on July 25, 2022, pursuant to RCW 42.17A.755, and WACs 390-37-060 and 390-37-071. Mr. John Russell participated by telephone in the Initial Hearing and represented Citizens for Stanwood-Camano Schools.
6. The Respondent did not file the C-1pc, C-3 or C-4 reports by the date of the enforcement hearing.
7. The Respondent has no prior violations.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above facts, as a matter of law, the Presiding Officer concludes as follows:

1. This matter was duly and properly convened, and all jurisdictional, substantive, and procedural requirements have been satisfied.
2. The Respondent violated: (1) RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to file a C-1pc report; and (2) RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 for failure to timely and accurately file C-3 and C-4 reports, disclosing contributions and expenditures undertaken by the committee.

ORDER

ON the basis of the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law,

1. **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Respondent shall file the missing C-1pc, C-3 and C-4 reports and is assessed a total civil penalty of \$450, in accordance with the Brief Enforcement penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143.
2. **It is further ordered** that \$225 of the \$450 penalty is suspended on the following conditions:
 - a. **The Respondent does not commit any further violations of Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC within four years of the date of this Order. The suspended penalty**

shall not be assessed based solely upon any remediable violation, minor violation, or error classified by the Commission as appropriate to address by a technical correction.

- b. The Respondent pays the \$225 non-suspended civil penalty within 30 days of the date of this Order.**
 - c. The Respondent files the missing C-1pc, C-3 and C-4 reports within 30 days of the date of this Order.**
- 3. It is further ordered that, if the Respondent fails to comply with any of the above conditions:**
- a. The full \$450 penalty shall immediately become due without further action by the Commission and PDC Staff is directed to refer the matter to collections and/or commence other legal proceedings as authorized by RCW 42.17A and 390 WAC.**
 - b. The missing C-1pc, C-3 and C-4 reports shall be due immediately.**

This is an **Initial Order** of the Public Disclosure Commission.

Entered this 10th of November, 2022.

Public Disclosure Commission

Electronically signed by Peter Lavallee

Peter Lavallee
Executive Director

I, Jennifer Hansen, certify that I emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their respective email address of record, on the date stated herein.

Electronically Signed Jennifer Hansen

11/10/2022

APPEALS OF INITIAL ORDER

REVIEW OF INITIAL ORDER - BY THE COMMISSION

You may request that the full Commission review this initial order. To seek review, you must:

- Make the request by email, stating the reason for review, and identifying what alleged errors are contained in the initial order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(1).
- All requests for review must be submitted electronically to pdcc@pdc.wa.gov **REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION WITHIN TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE THIS INITIAL ORDER WAS ELECTRONICALLY DISTRIBUTED TO YOU.**

If review of this initial order is timely requested, the full Commission will hear the matter. If the Commission is unable to schedule a meeting to consider the request within twenty (20) calendar days, this initial order becomes a final order, and any request for review will automatically be considered a request for reconsideration of a final order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(4). The matter would then be scheduled for consideration and disposition at the next Commission meeting at which it is practicable to do so.

A Respondent does not need to pay a penalty until after the Commission rules on a request for review of an initial order.

FURTHER APPEAL RIGHTS – SUPERIOR COURT

If the Commission does not receive a request for review of this initial order within twenty-one (21) calendar days, the initial order shall be the FINAL ORDER. *See* WAC 390-37-142(7).

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL A FINAL ORDER TO SUPERIOR COURT, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW PROVISIONS OF RCW 34.05.542.