

# **State of Washington**

#### PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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# **Memorandum**

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator

Date: May 18, 2022

Subject: Jerry Lord Enforcement Hearing Memorandum: PDC Case 108247

# **Allegations:**

Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff alleges that Jerry Lord, City Council Member for City of Chehalis, violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file Personal Financial Affairs Statements (F-1 reports) for calendar years 2020 & 2021 that were due no later than April 15, 2021 and April 15, 2022, respectively.

#### **Background:**

- Jerry Lord (the "Respondent") served as City Council Member for the City of Chehalis for the term January 1, 2020 through the present, with a term end date of December 31, 2023.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, an elected or appointed official who held office in 2020 and 2021 was required to file Personal Financial Affairs Statements (F-1 reports), disclosing personal financial information for calendar years 2020 & 2021, no later than April 15, 2021 and April 15, 2022, respectively.
- From March 3, 2021 through April 28, 2021, PDC staff emailed reminders to elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2020.
- From March 10, 2022 through April 5, 2022, PDC staff emailed reminders to elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2021.
- On April 18, 2022, PDC staff sent the Respondent a warning notice, by email and mail, regarding the missing F-1 reports for calendar years 2020 and 2021. The email was sent to the Respondent's official email address.

Jerry Lord PDC Case No. 108247 May 26, 2022 Enforcement Hearing Memorandum Page - 2 –

- On May 12, 2022, PDC staff served the Respondent, by email and mail, with a hearing notice for a May 26, 2022 Adjudicative Proceeding (Enforcement Hearing) before the full Public Disclosure Commission concerning the Respondent's failure to file the F-1 reports. The email was sent to the Respondent's personal email address.
- As of May 18, 2022, the Respondent has not filed the F-1 reports for calendar years 2020 and 2021 that were due April 15, 2021 and April 15, 2022, respectively.

## **Prior Violation:**

The Respondent has one prior violation of RCW 42. 17A.700 within the last five years:

#### Violation (PDC Case 80264)

- The Respondent, who was a candidate for City Council Member for the City of Chehalis in 2019 and held that office in 2020, failed to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2019, which was due no later than April 15, 2020.
- At a December 17, 2020 Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing), the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessed a \$250 penalty for failing to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2019 that was due no later than April 15, 2020.
- To date, the Respondent has not filed an F-1 report covering calendar year 2019.
- To date, the Respondent has not paid the outstanding \$250 civil penalty for case 80264, which was sent to collections.

### **Additional Information:**

The Respondent's most recent F-1 report was filed on June 26, 2017 and disclosed financial activity for June 26, 2016 through June 25, 2017.

## **Staff Recommendations:**

- Staff recommends the Commission find that the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file F-1 reports for calendar years 2020 & 2021.
- Assess the Respondent a civil penalty per <u>WAC 390-37-182</u> to be made payable within 30 days of the date of the Order.
- Require the Respondent to file the missing F-1 reports covering calendar years 2020 & 2021 within 30 days of the date of the Order.