

State of Washington

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator

Date: July 28, 2022

Subject: Chris Loving Enforcement Hearing Memorandum: PDC Case 109726

Allegations:

Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff alleges that Chris Loving, former City Council Member for City of Burlington, violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) for calendar year 2021 that was due no later than April 15, 2022.

Background:

- Chris Loving (the "Respondent") served as City Council Member for the City of Burlington for the term January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2021.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, an elected or appointed official who held office in 2021 was required to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report), disclosing personal financial information for calendar year 2021, no later than April 15, 2022.
- 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 May 11, 2022, PDC staff sent the Respondent a warning notice, by email and mail, regarding the missing F-1 report for calendar year 2021. The email was sent to the Respondent's personal email address.
- On July 14, 2022, PDC staff served the Respondent, by email and mail, with a hearing notice for a July 28, 2022 Adjudicative Proceeding (Enforcement Hearing) before the full Public Disclosure Commission concerning the Respondent's failure to file the F-1 report. The email was sent to the Respondent's personal email address.

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• As of July 20, 2022, the Respondent has not filed the F-1 report for calendar year 2021 that was due April 15, 2022.

Prior Violation:

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

Violation (PDC Case 93973)

- The Respondent, who served as City Council Member for City of Burlington in 2020, failed to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2020, which was due no later than April 15, 2021.
- At a July 15, 2021 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 2020 that was due no later than April 15, 2021.
- To date, the Respondent has not filed the F-1 report covering calendar year 2020 or paid the outstanding \$250 civil penalty for case 93973, which was sent to collections.

Additional Information:

The Respondent's most recent F-1 report was filed on September 7, 2020 and disclosed financial activity for calendar year 2019.

Staff Recommendations:

- Staff recommends the Commission find that the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2021.
- Assess the Respondent a civil penalty of \$500 for a second occasion of a violation where the
 report was not filed before the date of the hearing 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.