

State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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August 11, 2022

Danny Walling 34817 NE 119th Ave La Center WA 98629

And delivered electronically to daannywalling@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Order, Case 109727

Dear Danny Walling,

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Disclosure Commission's Order Imposing Fine that was entered in the above-referenced case.

At the July 28, 2022 Enforcement hearing, the Commission assessed a total civil penalty of \$10,000 of which \$2,500 is suspended in accordance with WAC 390-37-182. The \$7,500 non-suspended penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of this Order, which is **September 12, 2022**.

Please make the check or money order payable to "WA State Treasurer" and mail the payment to the following address:

Public Disclosure Commission PO Box 40908 Olympia, WA 98504-0908

It is also ordered that you file the missing F-1 reports within 30 days of this order, which is **September 12**, **2022**.

It is also ordered that you pay the outstanding balance for PDC Case 102995 of \$2,000 within 30 days of the date of this order, which is **September 12, 2022**.

Please contact the collection agency PMT Solutions directly at (425) 882-4800 to pay the outstanding penalties from your prior violations (PDC Cases 22190 & 80285).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have questions, please contact us by email at pdc@pdc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

<u>Electronically Signed by Tabitha Townsend</u> PDC Staff

Enclosure: Final Order

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION 8 OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON 9 In Re: The Matter of Enforcement Action PDC CASE NO. 109727 Against: 10 FINAL ORDER 11 DANNY WALLING, 12 Respondent. 13 14 This matter was heard remotely by the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission 15 (Commission) on July 28, 2022, by telephonic and online streaming access. Respondent Danny 16 Walling was provided notice on July 14, 2022, of the hearing date. The hearing was held in 17 accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37 WAC. 18 Commissioners present both telephonically and online were Fred Jarrett, Commission 19 Chair (presiding); Nancy Isserlis, Commission Vice-Chair; and Commissioners William 20 Downing, Allen Hayward, and Jocelyn Cooney. Also present both telephonically and online 21 were Assistant Attorney General John S. Meader representing the Commission, Assistant 22 Attorney General Chad Standifer representing PDC Staff, and Tabatha Blacksmith, PDC 23 Compliance Coordinator. Notice was provided to the Respondent and he did not appear on his 24 own behalf. The proceeding was open to the public as limited by Governor's Proclamation 20-25 25 et seq. and recorded.

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The Commissioners had before them the following materials:

- Case memorandum dated July 20, 2022, prepared by Tabitha Townsend, PDC Compliance Coordinator;
- 2. Hearing Notice, PDC Case 109727, mailed and dated July 14, 2022;
- 3. Final Order for prior violation, PDC Case 22190, entered October 10, 2017;
- 4. Initial Order for prior violation, PDC Case 80285, entered January 11, 2021.
- 5. Final Order for prior violation, PDC Case 102995, entered March 31, 2022.
- 6. Respondent's F-1 balance owing history printout as of July 20, 2022.

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

The matter involves Respondent Danny Walling, a Fire Commissioner for Clark County Fire Protection District #10. Respondent is alleged to have violated RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 Report) with the Public Disclosure Commission no later than April 15, 2022, disclosing financial information for the calendar year 2021. The Respondent has an outstanding penalty balance from his prior violations with the PDC of \$4,300.

- 1. In March and April of 2022, PDC staff sent email reminders to all elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2021.
- 2. On May 11, 2021, PDC staff emailed the Respondent a warning notice regarding the missing F-1 report. The notice was sent to the Respondent's email address of record.

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- 3. On July 14, 2022, PDC Staff served the Respondent by email and mail, with a hearing notice for a July 28, 2022 Enforcement Hearing along with instructions on how to participate in the hearing remotely before the full Public Disclosure Commission concerning his failure to file the F-1 report.
- 4. As of the date of the hearing the Respondent has not filed the missing F-1 report covering calendar year 2021 that was due no later than April 15, 2022.
- 5. The past due F-1 reports for calendar years 2019 and 2020 have not been filed as of the date of this hearing.
- 6. There are three prior cases for violations of RCW 42.17A.700 within the statute of limitations:
 - PDC Case 22190. At a September 28, 2017 Enforcement Hearing, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2016, which was due not later than April 17, 2017. A total civil penalty of \$1,000 was assessed in accordance with the penalty schedule adopted by the Commission that was in effect at that time. On October 4, 2017, the Respondent filed the F-1 report covering calendar year 2016 activity. The Respondent has not paid the civil penalty and the penalty has been sent for collection.

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• PDC Case 80285. At a November 10, 2020 Brief Enforcement Hearing, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2019, that was due not later than April 15, 2020. A civil penalty of \$1,000 was assessed in accordance with the penalty schedule adopted by the Commission that was in effect at that time. As of July 28, 2022, the Respondent has not filed the required F-1 report or paid the civil penalty and the penalty has been sent for collection.

- PDC Case 102995. At a March 24, 2022 Enforcement Hearing, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2020, which was due not later than April 15, 2021. A total civil penalty of \$2,000, with \$500 suspended, was assessed in accordance with the penalty schedule adopted by the Commission that was in effect at that time. The Respondent has not filed the F-1 report for calendar year 2020 or paid the \$2,000 civil penalty as of the date of the July 28, 2022 hearing.
- 7. The Respondent has an outstanding balance of \$300 from PDC Case 16-069. The case is outside the five-year statute of limitations for consideration when setting the penalty for the current violation but the unpaid civil penalty remains due.

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1	II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW
2 3	1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to Chapter
4 5	42.17A. RCW, the State campaign finance and disclosure law; Chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC.
6 7 8 9	3. Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, an elected or appointed official who held office in 2021 was required to file an F-1 Report, disclosing financial information for calendar year 2021 no later than April 15, 2022.
10 11	III. ORDER This Order will be the Final Order. After consideration of the mitigating and
12 13 14 15	aggravating factors, the Findings of Fact, and the Conclusions of Law, the Commission assesses a civil penalty of \$10,000 for the outstanding F-1 Report for calendar year 2021 with \$2,500 suspended on the following conditions:
16 17 18 19 20	 (a). The \$7,500 non-suspended portion of the civil penalty due for failure to timely file the F-1 report for calendar year 2021 in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 is paid by the Respondent within 30 days of the date of this Final Order.
21 22 23 24 25 26	(b). The past due civil penalties for failure to timely file the F-1 reports for calendar years 2015, 2016, 2019, and 2020, in violation of RCW 42.17A.700, totaling \$4,300 plus costs are paid by the Respondent within 30 days of the date of this Final Order.

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- (c). The missing F-1 reports for calendar years 2019, 2020 and 2021 are filed within 30 days of the date of this Final Order.
- (d). The Respondent remains in full compliance with all PDC reporting requirements and is not found to have committed any further violations of Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC within four years of the date of this Final 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.
- 2. If the Respondent fails to meet the conditions in Section III(1) of this order within 30 days of the date of this order, the suspended portion of the penalty for calendar year 2021 shall immediately become due and the matter may be sent to collections or brought to Superior Court as allowed by law without further action by the Commission.

SO ORDERED this 11th day of August 2022.

WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Fred Jarrett,

Chair, Public Disclosure Commission