

State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908 (360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov November 17, 2022

Robert Pruneda 1420 E Fern St Othello WA 99344

And delivered electronically to robspruneda@yahoo.com

Subject: PDC Order, Case 110555

Dear Robert Pruneda,

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

At the October 27, 2022 Enforcement hearing, the Commission assessed a total civil penalty of \$1,500, of which \$750 is suspended in accordance with WAC 390-37-182. The \$750 non-suspended penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of this Order, which is **December 19**, 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 C-1 and F-1 reports within 30 days of this order.

Please contact the collection agency PMT Solutions directly at (425) 882-4800 to pay the outstanding penalty from your prior violation (PDC Case 95426).

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. 110555 Against: 10 FINAL ORDER 11 ROBERT PRUNEDA, 12 Respondent. 13 14 This matter was heard by the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission 15 (Commission) on October 27, 2022, by in-person, telephonic, and online streaming access. 16 Respondent Robert Pruneda was provided notice on October 13, 2022, of the hearing date. The 17 hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37 18 WAC. 19 Commissioners present in-person or online were Fred Jarrett, Commission Chair 20 (presiding); Nancy Isserlis, Commission Vice-Chair; and Commissioners William Downing, and 21 Allen Hayward. Also present in-person, telephonically, or online were Assistant Attorney 22 General John S. Meader representing the Commission, Assistant Attorney General Chad 23 Standifer representing PDC Staff, and Tabitha Townsend, PDC Compliance Coordinator. Notice 24 was provided to the Respondent and he did not appear on his own behalf. The proceeding was 25

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open to the public as limited by Governor's Proclamation 20-25 et seq. and recorded.

The Commissioners had before them the following materials:

- Case memorandum dated September 14, 2022, prepared by Tabitha Townsend, PDC Compliance Coordinator;
- 2. Hearing Notice, mailed and dated October 13, 2022;
- 3. Final Order for prior violation, PDC Case 95426, served September 15, 2021.

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

The matter involves Respondent Robert Pruneda, a current Parks & Recreation Commissioner for Adams County Park & Recreation District 1. The 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.

- 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.
- On May 11, 2022, PDC staff emailed officials warning notices regarding missing
 F-1 reports. The notice was sent to the email addresses of record.
- 3. On July 25, 2022, PDC Staff served the Respondent, by email and mail, with a hearing notice for a September 1, 2022, Brief Enforcement Hearing. The Presiding Officer referred the case to the full Commission per WAC 390-37-143(5).

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- 4. On October 13, 2022, PDC staff served the Respondent, by email and mail, with a hearing notice for an October 27, 2022, Enforcement Hearing before the full Commission concerning his failure to file the F-1 report.
- 5. 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.
- 6. There is one prior case for violation of RCW 42.17A.700:
 - PDC Case 95426. At an August 12, 2021, Brief Enforcement
 Hearing, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.205
 and RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file the C-1 and F-1 reports for
 his 2021 candidacy that were due not later than June 3, 2021. A
 total civil penalty of \$500 was assessed in accordance with the
 penalty schedule adopted by the Commission in effect at that time.
 The Initial Order was served by mail and email on September 15,
 2021. As of October 19, 2022 the Respondent has not filed the C1 report for the 2021 candidacy that started May 21, 2021, or the
 F-1 report for May 21, 2020, through May 20, 2021. The penalty
 has also not been paid.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to Chapter
 42.17A. RCW, the State campaign finance and disclosure law; Chapter 34.05
 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC.

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2. 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.

III. ORDER

This Order will be the Final Order. After consideration of the mitigating and aggravating factors, the Findings of Fact, and the Conclusions of Law, the Commission assesses a civil penalty of \$1,500 for the late filed calendar year 2021 F-1 Report with \$750 suspended on the following conditions:

- 1. a. The \$500 past due civil penalty plus costs due for failure to timely file the C-1 and F-1 reports for calendar year 2021 in violation of RCW 42.17A.205 and .700 is paid by the Respondent within 30 days of the date of this Final Order.
 - b. The non-suspended portion (\$750) of the \$1,500 civil penalty for failure to 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.
 - c. The missing C-1 report for the May 21, 2021, candidacy and the F-1 reports for calendar years 2020 and 2021 are filed within 30 days of the date of this Final Order.

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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 collection or brought to Superior Court as allowed by law without further action by the Commission.

SO ORDERED this 17th day of November 2022.

WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Fred Jarrett,

Chair, Public Disclosure Commission