

State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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November 30, 2023

Kate McDougall 160 SE Westside Dr Chehalis WA 98532

And delivered electronically to kathmcd86@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Order, Case 144243

Dear Kate McDougall,

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

At the November 16, 2023 Full Enforcement hearing, the Commission assessed a total civil penalty of \$2000, of which \$1000 is suspended in accordance with WAC 390-37-182. The \$1,000 non-suspended penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of this Order, which is **January 2nd**, 2024.

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 for the prior twelve months for your candidacy (May 2020 through May 2021) and Calendar Years 2021 and 2022 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 violations (95485 & 110509).

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

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. 144243 Against: 10 FINAL ORDER 11 KATE McDOUGALL, 12 Respondent. 13 14 This matter was heard remotely by the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission 15 (Commission) at a November 16, 2023, Special Meeting by telephonic, and online streaming 16 access. Respondent Kate McDougall was provided notice on October 30, 2023, and November 17 2, 2023, of the hearing date and did not appear on her own behalf. The hearing was held in 18 accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37 WAC. 19 Commissioners present online were Nancy Isserlis, Commission Chair (presiding); Allen 20 Hayward, Commission Vice-Chair; and Commissioners Fred Jarrett, and J. Robert Leach. Also 21 present online were Assistant Attorney General John S. Meader representing the Commission, 22 and Tabitha Townsend, PDC Compliance Coordinator. The proceeding was open to the public 23 and recorded. 24 The Commissioners had before them the following materials: 25 26

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 Case memorandum dated November 8, 2023, prepared by Tabitha Townsend, PDC Compliance Coordinator;

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

The matter involves Respondent Kate McDougall, a City Council Member for the City of Chehalis since January, 2022. 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 17, 2023, disclosing financial information for calendar year 2022. The Respondent has two prior violations within the last five years.

- 1. From March 9, 2023, through April 13, 2023, PDC staff emailed reminders to all elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2022.
- 2. On October 30, 2023, and November 2, 2023, PDC staff mailed and emailed the Respondent a hearing notice to his email and physical address of record for a November 16, 2023, Enforcement Hearing along with instructions on how to participate in the hearing remotely, before the full Public Disclosure Commission concerning her failure to file the F-1 report.
- 3. As of the date of the hearing, the Respondent has not filed the missing F-1 report covering calendar year 2022 that was due no later than April 17, 2023.
- 4. There are two prior cases for violation of RCW 42.17A.700:

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• PDC Case 95485. At an August 12, 2021, Brief Enforcement Hearing, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file the F-1 report for the previous twelve months prior to becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021. The Respondent declared candidacy for City Council Member for the City of Chehalis on May 17, 2021. A total civil penalty of \$250 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 missing F-1 report and the \$250 civil penalty has not been paid.

• PDC Case 110509. At a September 1, 2022, Enforcement Hearing, the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file the F-1 report for calendar year 2021, which was due not later than April 15, 2022. A total civil penalty of \$1,000 was assessed, with \$500 suspended, in accordance with the penalty schedule adopted by the Commission that was in effect at that time. The Respondent has not filed the missing F-1 report and the civil penalty has 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 2022 was required to file an F-1 Report, disclosing financial information for calendar year 2022 no later than April 17, 2023.

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 \$2,000 for failing to file the F-1 report for calendar year 2022, with \$1,000 suspended on the following conditions:

- a. The \$1,000 non-suspended portion of the civil penalty due for failure to timely file the F-1 report for calendar year 2022 in violation of RCW
 42.17A.700 is paid by the Respondent within 30 days of the date of this Final Order or through an approved payment plan.
 - b. The past due civil penalties for failure to timely file the F-1 report for the twelve months prior to becoming a candidate and for calendar year 2021, in violation of RCW 42.17A.700, totaling \$1,250 plus collection fees are paid by the Respondent within 30 days of the date of this Final Order or through an approved payment plan.
 - c. The missing F-1 reports for the twelve months prior to becoming a candidate and for calendar years 2021, and 2022, are filed within 30 days of the date of this Final Order.

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2 3 4 5	requirements and is Chapter 42.17A RC	ident remains in full compliance with all PDC reporting s not found to have committed any further violations of CW or Title 390 WAC within four years of the date of this uspended penalty shall not be assessed based solely upon any
6 7 8	remediable violatio	en, minor violation, or error classified by the Commission as ess by a technical correction.
9 10 11 12 13	30 days of the date of year 2022 shall is	ails to meet the conditions in Section III(1) of this order within of this order, the suspended portion of the penalty for calendar immediately become due without further action by the II past due penalties may be sent to collections or to Superior ent.
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	SO ORDERED this	day of November, 2023. WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION FOR THE COMMISSION: Nancy Isserlis (Nov 30, 2023 08:27 PST) Nancy Isserlis, Commission Chair (presiding) Public Disclosure Commission
21 22 23 24 25 26	Kate McDougall, Respondent, 160 SE Westside Dr. Chehalis, WA 98532 kathmcd86@gmail.com Tabitha Townsend, PDC Compliance Coordinator, pdc@pdc.wa.gov	I,Tabitha Townsend, certify that I emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at his respective email address. Electronically Signed by Tabitha Townsend November 30, 2023 Signed Date

NOTICE: RECONSIDERATION Pursuant to the provisions of RCW 34.05.470 and WAC 390-37-150, you may file a Petition for Reconsideration with the PDC within ten (10) days from the date this Final Order is served upon you. Any Request for reconsideration must state the specific grounds for the relief requested. Petitions must be delivered or mailed to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission, 711 Capitol Way, Room 206, Box 40908, Olympia WA 98504-0908. **NOTICE:** PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW You have the right to appeal this Final Order to Superior Court, pursuant to the Petition for Judicial Review provisions of RCW 34.05.542. Any Petition for Judicial Review of this Final Order must be filed with the court and also served upon both the Commission and the Office of the Attorney general within thirty (30) days after the date this Final Order is served upon you.