

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

Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Tabitha Townsend, Compliance Coordinator

Date: November 8, 2023

Subject: Kate McDougall Enforcement Hearing Memorandum: PDC Case 144243

Allegations:

PDC staff alleges that Kate McDougall (formerly Olson) (The Respondent), an appointed City Council Member for the City of Chehalis violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) for calendar year 2022, due not later than April 17, 2023.

Background and Prior Violations:

- The Respondent was most recently appointed a City Council Member for City of Chehalis, on January 1, 2022.
- Between March 9th and April 13th 2023, PDC staff sent email reminders to all elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2022.
- On October 30, 2023 PDC staff mailed and emailed the respondent a Hearing notice regarding the missing report for calendar year 2022. This hearing notice was sent to the respondent's email and address of record.
- As of November 8, 2023 the Respondent has not filed an F-1 covering calendar year 2022.

Prior Violations

Second Violation (PDC Case 110509)

• The Respondent who was appointed January 1, 2022 to City Council for the City of Chehalis failed to file the annual F-1 report covering calendar year 2021 which was due no later than April 15, 2022.

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- At the September 1, 2022 Brief Enforcement Hearing the Chair found that the case needed to be heard by the full commission.
- At the October 27, 2022 Full Adjudicative Proceeding the Respondent was found to have violated RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file the required F-1 report on or before April 15, 2022 and a penalty was entered of \$1,000 with \$500 suspended.
- As of November 8, 2023 the missing F-1 report covering calendar year 2021 has not been filed and the \$1,000 penalty has not been paid.

First Violation (PDC Case 95485)

- The Respondent, who was a candidate for City Council for the City of Chehalis failed to file an F-1 report for the previous 12 months prior to becoming a candidate which was due within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021.
- The Respondent declared candidacy for City Council Member for City of Chehalis on May 17, 2021.
- At the August 12, 2021 Brief Enforcement Proceeding, the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessed a \$250 penalty.
- As of November 8, 2023, the missing F-1 report for the previous 12 months prior to becoming a candidate has not been filed and the \$250 penalty has not been paid.

Additional Information

- Per WAC 390-37-143(5), cases "will automatically be scheduled before the full commission for an enforcement action when the respondent:
 - (a) Was found in violation during a previous reporting period;
 - (b)The violation remains in effect following any appeals; and
 - (c) The person has not filed the disclosure forms that were the subject of the prior violation at the time the current hearing notice is being sent."

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Commission find that The Respondent violated 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file an F-1 report for calendar year 2022, and:

- 1. Assess the Respondent a civil penalty for a second occasion of a violation where the report was not filed before the date of the hearing per WAC 390-37-182 to be made payable within 30 days of the date of the Order. The base penalty range for this fact pattern is \$1,000 \$2,000: and
- 2. Require the respondent to file the missing F-1 report for calendar year 2022 within 30 days of the date of the Order.