

## State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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### BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A PDC Case 151234

Doug Weis, Findings

Respondent. Findings of Fact,
Conclusions of Law, and
Order Imposing Fine

Pursuant to the Brief Enforcement Hearing (Brief Adjudicative Proceeding) notice sent to Doug Weis on August 6, 2024, a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding was held on September 12, 2024, remotely from Olympia, WA by live audio and online transmission, to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.235 and RCW 42.17A.240 by failing to timely and accurately file C-3 and C-4 reports disclosing contributions and expenditures undertaken by the campaign. As a candidate in the 2023 Primary election, Doug Weis was required to file *Campaign Summary Receipts & Expenditures* reports (C-4 reports) for pre- and post-election periods disclosing activity from June 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023 that were due to be filed in July and September of 2023.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW, 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commission Vice-Chair J. Robert Leach was the Presiding Officer. The Commission staff was represented by Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Officer. Doug Weis (the "Respondent") did not attend or participate in the hearing or submit any written materials.

Having considered the evidence, the Presiding Officer finds as follows:

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Respondent was a candidate for School Director of Cle Elum-Roslyn School District 404 in election year 2023.
- 2. As a candidate for election in 2023, the Respondent was required to file a 21-day pre-Primary C-4 report (covering 6/1/23 7/11/23) by July 12, 2023, a 7-day pre-Primary C-4 report (covering 7/12/23 7/24/23) by July 25, 2023, and a post-Primary C-4 report (covering 7/25/23- 8/31/23) by September 11, 2023.
- 3. The Respondent did not file the pre- and post-election C-4 reports by the date of the enforcement hearing.

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4. The Respondent has no prior violations of RCW 42.17A.235 or RCW 42.17A.240.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above facts, as a matter of law, the Presiding Officer concludes as follows:

- 1. This matter was duly and properly convened, and all jurisdictional, substantive, and procedural requirements have been satisfied.
- 2. The Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.235 and RCW 42.17A.240 by failing to file the 21-day pre-Primary, 7-day pre-Primary, and post-Primary C-4 reports for election year 2023.

#### ORDER

ON the basis of the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law,

- 1. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent is assessed a total civil penalty of \$250 in accordance with the C-4 report penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143.
- 2. It is further ordered that the Respondent:
  - a. File the missing 21-day pre-Primary, 7-day pre-Primary, and post-Primary C-4 reports within 30 days of the date of this Order.
- 3. It is further ordered that \$100 of the \$250 penalty is suspended if the following conditions are timely met:
  - a. The Respondent pays the non-suspended portion of the penalty (\$150) within 30 days of the date of this Order. If the Respondent fails to pay the \$150 non-suspended penalty within 30 days, PDC staff is directed to refer the matter to collections.
  - b. The Respondent files the missing pre- and post-election C-4 reports within 30 days of the date of this Order.
  - c. If the Respondent fails to pay the non-suspended \$150 penalty and/or file missing reports within 30 days, the suspended portion of the penalty (\$100) shall also immediately become due without further action by the Commission, and PDC staff is directed to refer the full penalty amount (\$250) to collections.

This is an **Initial Order** of the Public Disclosure Commission.

Entered this 8th day of October, 2024.

**Public Disclosure Commission** 

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# <u>Electronically signed Peter Frey Lavallee</u> Peter Frey Lavallee

Executive Director

I, <u>Tabatha Blacksmith</u>, certify that I mailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their respective address postage pre-paid, and by email on the date stated herein.

**Electronically Signed Tabatha Blacksmith** Oct. 8, 2024 Signed Date

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#### APPEALS OF INITIAL ORDER

#### REVIEW OF INITIAL ORDER - BY THE COMMISSION

You may request that the full Commission review this initial order. To seek review, you must:

- Make the request orally or in writing, stating the reason for review, and identifying what alleged errors are contained in the initial order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(1). Staff may ask for written confirmation of oral requests for review.
- REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE <u>RECEIVED</u> BY THE COMMISSION WITHIN <u>TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS</u> AFTER THE POSTMARK DATE OF THIS INITIAL ORDER. Written requests for review should be delivered electronically to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission by email at <u>pdc@pdc.wa.gov</u>

If review of this initial order is timely requested, the full Commission will hear the matter. If the Commission is unable to schedule a meeting to consider the request within twenty (20) calendar days, this initial order becomes a final order, and any request for review will automatically be considered a request for reconsideration of a final order. See WAC 390-37-144(4). The matter would then be scheduled for consideration and disposition at the next Commission meeting at which it is practicable to do so.

A Respondent does not need to pay a penalty until after the Commission rules on a request for review of an initial order.

#### FURTHER APPEAL RIGHTS – SUPERIOR COURT

If the Commission does not receive a request for review of this initial order within twenty-one (21) calendar days, the initial order shall be the final order. *See* WAC 390-37-142(5).

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL A FINAL ORDER TO SUPERIOR COURT, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW PROVISIONS OF RCW 34.05.552.