

State of Washington

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Colin Peeples, Compliance Coordinator

Date: November 4, 2024

Subject: Darrel Norris Enforcement Hearing Memorandum: PDC Case 162545

Allegations:

PDC staff alleges that Darrel Norris (The Respondent), a Hospital Commissioner in King County Hospital District 4 violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) for calendar year 2023, due not later than April 15, 2024.

Background and Prior Violations:

- Darrel Norris was most recently elected in the 2019.
- Between March 12 and April 23, 2024, PDC staff sent email reminders to all elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2023.
- On October 3, 2024, PDC staff mailed and emailed the respondent a Hearing notice regarding the missing report for calendar year 2023. This hearing notice was sent to the respondent's email and address of record.
- As of December 4, 2024, the Respondent has not filed an F-1 covering calendar year 2023.

Prior Violations

First Violation (PDC Case 80232):

- Darrel Norris completed a Statement of Understanding (SOU) and paid a \$100 civil penalty in accordance with WAC 390-37-143 (Brief Enforcement Penalty Schedule), acknowledging violations of RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to timely file the Personal Financial Affairs Statement for Calendar Year 2019.

Second Violation (PDC Case 141885):

- The Respondent, who was elected Hospital Commissioner in King County Hospital District 4 failed to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2022, which was due no later than April 15, 2023.
- At the October 11, 2023, Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing), the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessed a \$500 penalty, \$250 dollars suspended provided the conditions of the order were met and no further violations for four years.
- To date, the Respondent has not paid the outstanding \$500 civil penalty for case 141885.
- In addition, the missing F-1 report for calendar year 2022 has not been filed.

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 2023, 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 \$0 to \$1000 and
2. Require Dariel Norris to file the missing F-1 report for calendar year 2023 & 2022 within 30 days of the date of the Order.

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