

State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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July 2, 2025

Delivered electronically to <u>brandonvollmer93@icloud.com</u> and <u>votewolk@gmail.com</u>

Subject: PDC Case 170348 regarding Brandon Vollmer

Dear Brandon Vollmer:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint filed by Brian Wolk on April 8, 2025. The complaint alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.205 and .700 by failing to timely and accurately file a *Candidate Registration* (C-1 report) and *Personal Financial Affairs Statement* (F-1 report) within two weeks of becoming a candidate.

Applicable Laws and Rules

- Candidates are required to register pursuant to RCW 42.17A.205 within two weeks of becoming a candidate¹, as defined, by filing a *Candidate Registration* (C-1 report). A candidate that selects the Full Reporting option on their C-1 report is required to report contributions and expenditures to the PDC on *Cash Receipts Monetary Contributions* reports (C-3 reports) and *Campaign Summary Receipts & Expenditures* reports (C-4 reports) pursuant to RCW 42.17A.235 & RCW 42.17A.240. The due dates for these reports are based upon the election cycle, the candidate's election participation, and their financial activity².
- RCW 42.17A.700 requires a candidate to file a *Personal Financial Affairs Statement* (F-1 report) with the PDC within two weeks of becoming a candidate, as defined, that discloses personal financial information for themselves and their spouse or registered domestic partner, if any, for the twelve months preceding candidacy.

¹ RCW 42.17A.005(8) defines a "candidate" as an individual who seeks nomination for election or election to public office. An individual becomes a candidate when they first 1) receive contributions, make expenditures, or reserve space or facilities with the intent to promote their candidacy for office; 2) announce publicly or file for office; 3) purchase commercial advertising space or broadcast time to promote their candidacy; or 4) give consent to another person to perform items 1 and 3 above.

² Candidates are required to file C-4 reports for the months of January through May by the tenth day of each following month if they received a contribution or made an expenditure in the prior month that exceeded \$750. RCW 42.17A.235(3)(a).

Background and Findings

- Brandon Vollmer (the "Respondent") publicly announced his intention to run for office on social media (X and Facebook) as early as January 8, 2025. Based on this date, the Respondent was required to submit a C-1 report and candidate F-1 report to the PDC no later than January 22, 2025.
- The Respondent filed a *Personal Financial Affairs Statement* (F-1 report) with the PDC on April 9, 2025. The report was amended on April 17, 2025, to include reportable income for his spouse or registered domestic partner.
- On April 14, 2025, the Respondent replied to the complaint via email and said he was unaware of the reporting deadline because he has never run for office before and the person who helped him after he announced his candidacy failed to inform him of the reporting requirements. He indicated that the Complainant, Brian Wolk, had reached out to him by email the day the complaint was filed (4/8/25) and he (Brandon) subsequently filed the F-1 report.
- The Respondent filed a *Candidate Registration* (C-1 report) with the PDC on April 17, 2025, and selected the Full Reporting option. The report was later amended to include minor edits.
- The Respondent does not have previous warnings/violations of PDC requirements.

Summary and Resolution

Your non-compliance concerning the late C-1 and F-1 reports appears to be the result of good-faith omissions. You are a first-time candidate, which is a mitigating factor.

However, pursuant to <u>WAC 390-37-060(1)(d)</u>, this serves as a formal written warning concerning your failure to timely register as a candidate and file a *Personal Financial Affairs Statement*. PDC staff expect you to timely file the required C-1 and F-1 reports should you choose to run for office again in the future, and the F-1 report annually, if you are elected to office. The Commission will consider this formal written warning in deciding on further Commission action if there are future violations of PDC laws or rules.

Based on this information, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Tabatha Blacksmith at 1-360-753-1111, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

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Electronically signed by Tabatha Blacksmith
Tabatha Blacksmith

Compliance Officer

Electronically signed by Kim Bradford

Kim Bradford Deputy Director

Endorsed by,

For Peter Frey Lavallee

Executive Director

cc: Brian Wolk