



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 (Commission)
From: Colin Peeples, Compliance Coordinator
Date: September 12, 2025
Subject: Ezequiel Morfin; PDC Case 175154; Reconsideration Hearing

Matter for Review:

During a Brief Enforcement Hearing held August 7, 2025, Ezequiel Morfin (Respondent) was found to have violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1) for calendar year 2024. At the August 7, 2025 Brief Enforcement Hearing, an order imposing a \$500 penalty (with \$200 suspended) was entered, which Respondent now requests the Commission reconsider.

Background:

- Respondent was most recently appointed City Council Member in the City of Toppenish from March 11, 2024, until February 11, 2025. Respondent has one prior Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) violation.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, elected and appointed officials are required to file an F-1 no later than April 15, 2025, for calendar year 2024.
- Between March 14 and April 25, 2025, PDC staff sent email reminders to all annual officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2024.
- On May 5, 2025, PDC staff emailed warning letters to all annual officials regarding their missing F-1 reports.
- On July 7, 2025, PDC staff emailed Respondent a hearing notice regarding the missing report. This hearing notice was sent to Respondent's email address of record. **(Exhibit 1)**
- At the Brief Enforcement Hearing held August 7, 2025, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700. Respondent was assessed a \$500 penalty (of which \$200 was

suspended), consistent with WAC 390-37-143, the Brief Enforcement Hearing penalty schedule adopted by the Commission.

- On August 20, 2025, PDC staff served Respondent an Initial Order by email to Respondent's email address of record. **(Exhibit 2)**

Request for Review:

- On September 4, 2025, Respondent contacted PDC staff by email, requesting to appeal the penalty assessed in the Initial Order entered August 7, 2025. Respondent stated the grounds for appeal was 1) Respondent had multiple health issues 2) they resigned from their position in early 2025 and did not realize the statement needed to be filed 3) they have multiple outstanding medical bills. **(Exhibit 3)**
- On September 5, 2025, PDC staff served Respondent a hearing notice via email for a September 25, 2025 Reconsideration Hearing before the Commission, along with instructions on how to participate in the hearing remotely. **(Exhibit 4)**

Attachments:

- 175154 Ezequiel Morfin Annual F1 BAP Hearing Notice (GE25)
- 175154 Ezequiel Morfin Annual F-1 BAP Order
- 175154 Ezequiel Morfin Reconsideration Request
- 175154 Ezequiel Morfin Reconsideration Hearing Notice (Full)

PDC Exhibit 1

Subject: F-1 Brief Enforcement Hearing Notice; PDC Case Number 175154

Dear Ezequiel Morfín:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has not received your Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) disclosing financial activities for calendar year 2024.

RCW 42.17A.700 requires every elected or appointed official to file an F-1 report, which was to have been filed no later than April 15, 2025.

In accordance with RCW 42.17A.110 and RCW 42.17A.755, a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) has been scheduled to determine if you violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file the required F-1 report for the 2025 election cycle. Under the Brief Enforcement Hearing rules, the Presiding Officer has the authority to assess a civil penalty in accordance with WAC 390-37-143, a penalty schedule adopted by the Commission (see enclosed copy).

HEARING INFORMATION

Date and time: **August 7, 2025 at 1:30PM**

Place: Remotely from Olympia

Live Audio and Online Transmission

Presiding Officer: J Leach, Chair, Public Disclosure Commission

Authority: RCW 42.17A and WAC 390

To participate in the hearing please follow the link below. If you are intending to attend the hearing, please respond to this email informing us that you intend to do so. In hearings with a large number of respondents, PDC Staff does try to prioritize respondents who indicate they intend to participate before the hearing. **If you do not inform us prior to the hearing, you may have to wait in excess of an hour for your case to be heard.**

<https://tinyurl.com/24e6whyc>

To participate by telephone please use, [+1 564-999-2000](tel:+15649992000) conference id 366394257#

HOW TO AVOID THE HEARING

To avoid the Brief Enforcement Hearing, please take all the following steps:

1. File your F-1 report electronically by no later than **July 28, 2025**;

Online instructions for filing the reports are attached.

AND

1. Mail or Email the following items to the PDC so they are postmarked on or before **July 28, 2025**:
 - A signed *Statement of Understanding* (blank form attached).
 - A payment in the amount of \$100, made either electronically through the PDC's online payment system or by mail. Please see the attached instructions.

(Any *Statement of Understanding* received via email or mailed with a postmark later than July 28, 2025, will not be accepted and your case will proceed to hearing.

The *Statement of Understanding* is not valid without the filed report and payment.)

If you have any further questions, please respond to this email.

PDC Staff

Public Disclosure Commission

PDC@pdc.wa.Gov

360-753-1111



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Washington State law established email as the PDC's official means of communication as of June 7th, 2018 (RCW 42.17A.055). Filers have a duty to amend their reports within 10 days of any material changes, such as new email addresses. Please ensure your email address is up to date.

To respond, please reply to this email.

Washington Public Disclosure Commission

<http://www.pdc.wa.gov>

1.360.753.1111

PDC Exhibit 2



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August 20, 2025

Delivered electronically to ezequiel.morfin@cityoftoppenish.us

Subject: PDC Order, Case 175154

Dear Ezequiel Morfin,

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

At the August 7, 2025 Brief Enforcement hearing, the Presiding Officer assessed a total civil penalty of \$500, of which \$200 is suspended, in accordance with WAC 390-37-143. The \$300 non-suspended penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of this Order, which is **September 19, 2025**.

Online Payment Option:

To make an online payment please respond to the email accompanying this order requesting the payment link. Processing fees may apply.

To mail a check or money order, make it payable to the "Washington State Treasurer" and be sure to include the PDC Case Number in the memorandum field.

For Regular Mail:

Public Disclosure Commission
PO Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504-0908

For Overnight Mail or In-Person Delivery:

Public Disclosure Commission
711 Capitol Way S, STE 206
Olympia, WA 98501-1267

It is also ordered that you file the missing F-1 report within 30 days of this order, which is **September 19, 2025**.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have questions, please contact us by email at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed by Colin Peebles
PDC Staff

Enclosure: Initial Order



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A

PDC Case 175154

Ezequiel Morfin

Respondent.

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

Pursuant to the notice of brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) sent to Ezequiel Morfin dated July 7, 2025, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on August 7, 2025, remotely from Olympia, WA by live audio and online transmission. The purpose of the hearing was to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file or timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) for calendar year 2024, which was due to be filed no later than April 15, 2025.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW, 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commission Chair J. Robert Leach was the Presiding Officer. Commission staff was represented by Compliance Coordinators Colin Peeples, Shelley Warnock, and Jordan Campbell. The Respondent did not participate in the hearing or submit any written material.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent is an elected or appointed for CITY COUNCIL MEMBER of CITY OF TOPPENISH.
2. As an elected or appointed official, RCW 42.17A.700 required the Respondent to file an F-1 report by April 15, 2024.
3. The Respondent failed to file the F-1 prior to the hearing.
4. The Respondent has one prior violation.

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.700 by failing to file or timely file the F-1 report by April 15, 2025.

ORDER

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

1. **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Respondent shall file the missing F-1 report within 30 days of the date of this Order and assessed a total civil penalty of \$500, in accordance with the annual F-1 penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143.
2. It is further ordered that \$200 of the \$500 penalty is suspended on the following conditions:
 - a. The Respondent does not commit any further violations of Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC within four years of the date of this Order. The suspended penalty shall not be assessed based solely upon any remediable violation, minor violation, or error classified by the Commission as appropriate to address by a technical correction.
 - b. The Respondent pays the \$300 non-suspended civil penalty within 30 days of the date of this Order.
 - c. The Respondent files the missing F-1 report within 30 days of the date of this Order.
3. It is further ordered that, if the Respondent fails to comply with any of the above conditions:
 - a. The full \$500 penalty shall immediately become due without further action by the Commission and PDC Staff is directed to refer the matter to collections and/or commence other legal proceedings as authorized by RCW 42.17A and 390 WAC.
 - b. The missing F-1 report shall be due immediately.

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

Entered this 20th of August, 2025.

Public Disclosure Commission

Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee
Peter Frey Lavallee
Executive Director

I, Colin Peebles, certify that I emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their address of record on the date stated herein.

Electronically Signed Colin Peebles
Signed

August 20, 2025
Date

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 by email, stating the reason for review, and identifying what alleged errors are contained in the initial order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(1).
- All requests for review must be submitted electronically to pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov. **REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION WITHIN TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE INITIAL ORDER WAS ELECTRONICALLY DISTRIBUTED TO YOU.**

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(7).

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL A FINAL ORDER TO SUPERIOR COURT, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW PROVISIONS OF RCW 34.05.542.

PDC Exhibit 3

To Commissioners,

I am writing this email to request a waiver of my fine of \$300. I am asking the commissioners to review and have compassion with my request.

I have recently received a letter and from what I know some previous emails were going to an old email address that I don't have access to.

This 2025 I was only city council member until the first week of February. Because of health problems with shingles and because of an emergency incident involving a laceration on my forehead at the end of the year I was not able to publicly serve my city. I currently have hospital bills that I did not account for.

My other reason is because I did not know I had to report an F1 since I left at the beginning of the year. With so much going on with my health I didn't realize I had to make the state aware. I honestly did not know and this has been a first time experience for me.

I have recently submitted my F1 for this year.

I apologize for my mistake and I hope you can consider my request.

Thank You

Ezequiel "Zeke" Morfin

PDC Exhibit 4



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September 5, 2025

Delivered electronically to ezmorfin509@gmail.com.

Subject: Order Reconsideration Hearing Notice; PDC Case Number 175154

Dear Ezequiel Mofin:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) received your request for an appeal of the Order issued in the case cited above. Your request was received on September 4, 2025, and is scheduled to be heard; it is considered a request for reconsideration under WAC 390-37-150.

The Order was issued pursuant to a brief adjudicative proceeding held on August 7, 2025, in which you were found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessed a penalty of \$500 with \$200 suspended if the required report is filed penalty paid within 30 days of the date of the Initial Order.

RCW 42.17A.700 outlines the requirement for elected and appointed officials to file their F-1 report by April 15, 2025, for calendar year 2024.

Based on your request, an Order Reconsideration Hearing has been scheduled in your case, as provided below. The Hearing will be held before the full Commission, in accordance with RCW 42.17A.110 and .755, and WAC 390-37-144. You will have an opportunity to explain your view of the matter if you choose to attend the Hearing.

HEARING INFORMATION

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Date and time: | Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 9:40AM |
| Place: | Remotely from Olympia Live Audio and Online Transmission |
| Presiding Officer: | Public Disclosure Commission |
| Authority: | RCW 42.17A and WAC 390 |

PARTICIPATING VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE INSTRUCTION PRIOR TO JOINING THE MEETING:

Log-in to the meeting promptly 15 minutes prior to your presentation time (9:25AM). You will be called in order of the agenda, stay muted and on hold until your name is called. You will be sworn in prior to presenting your testimony to the commission.

Please note you may be prompted to download MS TEAMS App or use a supported browser:

Microsoft Edge or Chrome for best performance.

Participation Remote via MS Teams

Join on your computer or mobile app

<https://tinyurl.com/4yskbd7h>

To participate by telephone please use [+1 564-999-2000](tel:+15649992000) conference id 757 828 431#

Please remember to **Mute** yourself and turn your **camera off** when you are not talking.

For assistance prior to the start of the meeting contact 1-360-753-1111.

INTERPRETER

If a party or witness to this proceeding speaks limited English or is hearing-impaired, and needs an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to you. Please inform us at least five business days before the hearing or no later than **Thursday September 18, 2025**, if you require an interpreter for this proceeding and/or translation of its written materials in a language other than English. Please contact us by email at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov or call us at (360) 753-1111 or 1-877- 601-2828 to request an interpreter.

SUBMITTING WRITTEN MATERIALS

In advance of the Enforcement Hearing, you may provide a written response describing the facts of your case for consideration by the Commission, including any circumstances or mitigating factors you would like considered. Please submit your written response so it is received by no later than **Thursday September 18, 2025**.

If you have any questions about the hearing process prior to the hearing date, please contact PDC Staff by email at pdc@pdc.wa.gov and be sure to reference your case number in the subject line of the email.

Sincerely,

PDC Staff
Compliance and Enforcement Division

