

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

Delivered electronically to brettjtac@gmail.com.

October 16, 2025

Subject: PDC Order, Case 178065

Dear Brett Johnson,

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

At the September 23, 2025, Brief Enforcement Hearing, the Presiding Officer assessed a total civil penalty of \$1000 with \$750 suspended in accordance with WAC 390-37-143.

The \$250 non-suspended penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of the Order. Your due date for payment is **November 17, 2025**. See the options below for how to pay online, by mail, or in-person.

Online Payment Option:

To make an online payment please respond to the email accompanying this order requesting a payment link.

A payment link will be sent to you, in which you will need to provide the following information: (1) Case Number; and (2) Respondent Name. 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 REPORT C-4 Reports within 30 days of this order, which is **November 17, 2025**.

If you have questions, please contact us by email at pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

<u>Electronically Signed by Shelley Hines</u> Shelley Hines Compliance Coordinator

Enclosure: Final Order



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A PDC Case 178065

Brett Johnson, Findings of Fact,

Respondent. Conclusions of Law, and Order Imposing Fine

Pursuant to the brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) notice sent to **Brett Johnson** on September 2, 2025, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on September 23, 2025, remotely from Olympia, WA by live audio and online transmission, to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.235 by failing to file or timely file, as a candidate for the 2025 election cycle, the mandatory 21-day and 7-day pre-primary C-4 reports. The C-4 reports, disclosing campaign expenditures, were due to be filed not later than July 15, 2025 and July 29, 2025.

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

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Respondent is a candidate for **COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSIONER** of **PIERCE CO**.
- 2. As a candidate for election, the Respondent was required to file the 21-day and 7-day preprimary C-4 reports by July 15, 2025 and July 29, 2025.
- 3. The Respondent has no prior violations of RCW 42.17A.235.

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 by failing to timely file the 21-day and 7-day pre-primary C-4 reports by July 15, 2025 and July 29, 2025.

ORDER

ON the basis of the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and in recognition of the heightened importance of pre-election C-4 reporting that gives the public information prior to the completion of voting,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of \$1000, in accordance with the C-4 penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143.

It is further ordered that the \$750 of the \$1000 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 \$250 non-suspended civil penalty within 30 days of the date of this Order.
- c. The Respondent files the missing C-4 reports within 30 days of the date of this Order.
- d. The Respondent timely files all other mandatory C-4 reports for the 2025 election as required by RCW 42.17A.235.

It is further ordered that, if the Respondent fails to comply with any of the above conditions:

- a. The full \$1000 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. In the event that the Respondent fails to timely file mandatory C-4 reports during the 2025 cycle, \$250 of the \$750 will be unsuspended for each report.

In the event the Respondent fails to pay the \$250 civil penalty within 30 days of the date of the Order, PDC staff is directed to refer the matter to collections or to seek a court order compelling compliance with this Order.

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

Entered this 16th day of October 2025.

Public Disclosure Commission Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee Peter Frey Lavallee **Executive Director**

I, Shelley Hines, certify that I emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent on the date stated herein.

Electronically Signed by Shelley Hines October 16, 2025 Signed 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 pdc.wa.gov.

REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE <u>RECEIVED</u> BY THE COMMISSION WITHIN <u>TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS</u> AFTER THIS 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(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.