

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

March 9, 2020

Robert Mitchell PO Box 719 Olympia, WA 98507-0719

And delivered electronically to "bob.mitchell@warealtor.org"

Subject: PDC Order, Case 65087

Dear Robert Mitchell,

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Disclosure Commission's Order Imposing Fine that was entered in the above-referenced case. At the February 28, 2020, Brief Enforcement hearing, the Presiding Officer assessed a total civil penalty of \$250 in accordance with WAC 390-37-143. The \$250 penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of this Order.

The \$250 penalty is payable no later than <u>April 8, 2020</u>. Please make the check or money order <u>payable to the "WA State Treasurer"</u>, and mail the payment to the following:

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

Please do not send the payment to the PDC offices.

Please file the missing L-2 reports referenced in the attached Order. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

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

Sincerely,

/s
Fox Blackhorn
Compliance Coordinator 2

Enclosure: Initial Order



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A

ROBERT MITCHELL,

Respondent.

PDC Case 65087

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

Pursuant to the brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) notice sent to Robert Mitchell on February 14, 2020, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on February 28, 2020, in Room 206, Evergreen Plaza Building, 711 Capitol Way, Olympia, Washington, to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.615 by failing to file Monthly Lobbyist Expense Reports (L-2 Reports) as a lobbyist for the 2019 calendar year. The L-2 reports were due to be filed by the 15th of each month, disclosing lobbying activities in the previous calendar month.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW and 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commission Chair Dave Ammons was the Presiding Officer. The Commission staff was represented by Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator. The Respondent did not 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 registered lobbyist in the State of Washington during calendar year 2019.
- 2. As a registered lobbyist, the Respondent was required to file the L-2 reports by the 15th of each month, disclosing compensation and lobbying expenses in the prior calendar month, such as travel, entertainment, contributions, advertising, and other lobbying expenses.
- 3. The Respondent did not file the missing L-2 reports for May and June of 2019 prior to the date of the hearing.
- 4. The Respondent has no prior violations.

Finding, Conclusions & Order Robert Mitchell PDC Case 65087 Page - 2 –

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.615 by failing to file the L-2 reports by the 15th of the month as required.

ORDER

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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of \$250 in accordance with the L-2 penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143. The \$250 penalty is due within 30 days from the date of this Order.

In the event the Respondent fails to pay the assessed civil penalty within 90 days of the date of the Order, PDC staff is directed to refer the matter to outside collections for the amount owed.

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

Entered this 9th Day of March

Public Disclosure Commission

Executive Director

I, Fox Blackhorn-Delph, certify that I mailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their respective address postage pre-paid on the date stated perein.

Signed

March 9, 2020

Date

Finding, Conclusions & Order Robert Mitchell PDC Case 65087 Page - 3 –

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@pdc.wa.gov.
 REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION WITHIN TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE 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(7).

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL A FINAL ORDER TO SUPERIOR COURT, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW PROVISIONS OF RCW 34.05.514 et seq.