



State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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March 11, 2021

Jeff Jernigan  
17745 Littlerock Rd SW  
Rochester, WA 98579

And delivered electronically to [jjfire54@comcast.net](mailto:jjfire54@comcast.net)

Subject: PDC Order, Case 80222

Dear Jeff Jernigan,

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Disclosure Commission's Order Imposing Fine that was entered in the above-referenced case. At the February 25, 2021 full Enforcement hearing, the Commission assessed a total civil penalty of \$3,000 pursuant to WAC 390-37-182, of which \$3,000 is suspended based on the conditions set forth in section IV. of the Final Order being timely met.

Please note that you owe previous outstanding penalties. These outstanding penalties have been sent to a collection agency. To pay past due penalties in full, please contact PMT Solutions (a collection agency) directly at (425) 882-4800, provide your name and PDC Case #(s) 10055, 22257 and 38864.

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

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed by Tabatha Blacksmith  
PDC Staff

Enclosure: Final Order

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7 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**  
8 **OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

9 In re the Matter of Enforcement Action  
10 Against:

PDC CASE NO. 80222

11 JEFF JERNIGAN,

FINAL ORDER

12 Respondent.  
13

14 **I. INTRODUCTION**

15 This matter was heard remotely by the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission  
16 (Commission) on February 25, 2021, by telephonic and online streaming access. The hearing  
17 was held pursuant to Chapter 34.05 RCW, Chapter 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37 WAC.

18 Commissioners present were Fred Jarrett, Commission Chair (presiding); Nancy Isserlis,  
19 Commission Vice-Chair; and Commissioners William Downing and Russell Lehman. Also  
20 present were Assistant Attorney General John S. Meader representing the Commission, Assistant  
21 Attorney General Chad Standifer representing Commission staff, and Tabatha Blacksmith,  
22 Compliance Coordinator, on behalf of PDC Staff. Respondent Jeff Jernigan also appeared  
23 telephonically and online on his own behalf. The proceeding was open to the public as limited  
24 by Governor's Proclamation 20-28 *et seq.* and recorded.

25 The hearing concerned allegations that Jeff Jernigan (Respondent) violated RCW  
26 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report)

1 disclosing personal financial information for calendar years 2018 and 2019 that were due no  
2 later than April 15, 2019, and April 15, 2020, respectively.

3 The Commissioners had before them the following materials:

- 4 ○ Case Memorandum for PDC Case No. 80222 prepared by Tabatha Blacksmith and dated  
5 February 25, 2021;
- 6 ○ Exhibit 1: February 12, 2021, Hearing Notice for Adjudicative Proceeding on February  
7 25, 2021, PDC Case No. 80222;
- 8 ○ Exhibit 2: F-1 Report for Calendar year 2013, filed April 15, 2014;
- 9 ○ Exhibit 3: Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Imposing Fine for PDC Case  
10 No. 10055, entered February 3, 2017;
- 11 ○ Exhibit 4: Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Imposing Fine for PDC Case  
12 No. 22257, entered September 5, 2017;
- 13 ○ Exhibit 5: Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Imposing Fine for PDC Case  
14 No. 38864, entered November 1, 2018;

## 15 16 **II. FINDINGS OF FACT**

17 1. Jeff Jernigan has served as Fire Commissioner for West Thurston Regional Fire  
18 Authority from January 1, 2013, to the present.

19 2. Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, an elected or appointed official who held office in  
20 2019 was required to file an F-1 report disclosing personal financial information for calendar  
21 year 2018 no later than April 15, 2019. The Respondent failed to timely file the report.

22 3. In March and April of 2019, PDC staff sent the Respondent eight email reminders  
23 regarding his missing F-1 report for calendar year 2018.

24 4. Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, an elected or appointed official who held office in  
25 2020 was required to file an F-1 report disclosing personal financial information for calendar  
26 year 2019 no later than April 16, 2020. The Respondent failed to timely file the report. Failure

1 to timely file the 2018 and 2019 F-1 reports represents the third and fourth violations by the  
2 Respondent within the past five years.

3 5. Between February and May of 2020, PDC staff sent nine email reminders to all  
4 elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2019.

5 6. On July 17, 2020, PDC staff sent warning letters to elected and appointed officials  
6 regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2019.

7 7. From July 27 through October 7, 2020, PDC staff also made telephone calls to  
8 elected and appointed officials, and to representatives in the jurisdictions in which they serve,  
9 reminding them of their missed obligation to file the F-1 report covering calendar year 2019 that  
10 was due April 15, 2020.

11 8. On February 12, 2021, PDC staff served the Respondent by electronic mail with  
12 a hearing notice for a February 25, 2021, Adjudicative Proceeding before the full Public  
13 Disclosure Commission concerning the failure to file the F-1 reports.

14 9. On February 19, 2021, the Respondent electronically filed the F-1 report covering  
15 calendar year 2019, and his F-1 report covering calendar year 2020 that is due by April 15, 2021.

16 10. Prior violations of RCW 42.17A.700:

17 a) First Violation, PDC Case No. 10055:

- 18 • The Respondent failed to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2015, which  
19 was due no later than April 15, 2016.
- 20 • On January 20, 2017, a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief  
21 Enforcement Hearing) was held at which the Respondent was found in  
22 violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessed a \$500 civil penalty for  
23 failing to file an F-1 report.
- 24 • To date the Respondent has not paid the outstanding \$500 civil penalty  
25 for PDC Case No. 10055.

26 b) Second Violation, PDC Case No. 22257:

- The Respondent failed to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2016, which  
was due no later than April 15, 2017.

- On August 23, 2017, a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) was held at which the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty for failing to file an F-1 report that was due no later than April 15, 2017.
- To date the Respondent has not paid the outstanding \$1,000 civil penalty for PDC Case No. 22257.
- c) Third Violation, PDC Case No. 38864:
  - The Respondent failed to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2017, which was due no later than April 16, 2018.
  - On October 25, 2018, an Adjudicative Proceeding(Enforcement Hearing) was held before the full Commission at which the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessed a \$2,500 civil penalty for failing to file an F-1 report that was due no later than April 16, 2018.
  - To date the Respondent has not paid the outstanding \$2,500 civil penalty for PDC Case No. 38864.

11. Staff recommended at the February 25, 2021, hearing a civil penalty of \$3,000, pursuant to the penalty schedule in WAC 390-37-182, if the missing F-1 reports were not filed.

12. Mr. Jernigan stated in his testimony before the Commission at the February 25, 2021, hearing that he had sent by overnight mail to the PDC each of the missing F-1 reports from 2015 through 2018. PDC staff confirmed such a package had been received by Consolidated Mail Services but had not been delivered to the PDC as of the hearing date to verify its contents.

13 The Commission found Mr. Jernigan's testimony credible about the recent F-1 filings and his representations that he was unaware of the missing reports through his own failure to attend to his filing responsibilities. The Commission appreciated his admission of fault in this matter and his promises to file regular and timely reports in the future.

### III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to Chapter 42.17A RCW, the State campaign finance and disclosure law; Chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative

1 Procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC.

2 2. Based on the above Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and hearing testimony, the  
3 Commission concludes:

- 4 a. Jeff Jernigan violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file F-1 financial  
5 reports for the years 2018 and 2019.

6  
7 **IV. ORDER**

8 Based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Commission orders that:

- 9  
10 1. Respondent Jeff Jernigan is assessed a total civil penalty of \$3,000 with \$3,000  
11 suspended on the following conditions:

12 a. The missing F-1 reports for calendar years 2015 through 2018 are filed  
13 with the PDC within 30 days of the date of this Final Order.

14  
15 b. The civil penalties due for violations of RCW 42.17A.700 in the calendar  
16 years 2015-2018, totaling \$4,000 are paid by the Respondent within 120  
17 days of the date of this Final Order.

18  
19 c. The Respondent remains in full compliance with all PDC reporting  
20 requirements and is not found to have committed any further violations of  
21 Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC within four years of the date of  
22 this Final Order. The suspended penalty shall not be assessed based solely  
23 upon any remediable violation, minor violation, or error classified by the  
24 Commission as appropriate to address by a technical correction.

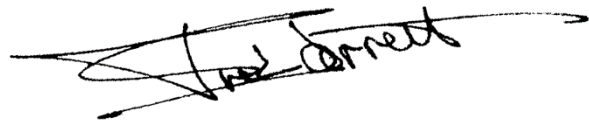
- 25 2. If the Respondent fails to comply with the filing of the F-1 reports or fails to make  
26

1           timely payment of the prior year's civil penalties in full, the suspended portion of  
2           the penalty shall immediately become due without further action by the  
3           Commission.

4           So ORDERED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.

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6           WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC  
7           DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

8           FOR THE COMMISSION:

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11           \_\_\_\_\_  
12           Fred Jarrett  
13           Chair, Public Disclosure Commission

14           *Copy of this Order mailed and/or emailed to:*

15           Jeff Jernigan, Respondent  
16           [jjfire54@comcast.net](mailto:jjfire54@comcast.net)

17           Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator, PDC Staff  
18           [tabatha.blacksmith@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:tabatha.blacksmith@pdc.wa.gov)

19           I, Tabatha Blacksmith, certify that I mailed a copy of this order to the Respondent/ Applicant at  
20           his/her respective address postage pre-paid on the date stated herein.

21           Electronically signed Tabatha Blacksmith  
22           Signed

23           March 11, 2021  
24           Date

25           **NOTICE:    RECONSIDERATION**

26           Pursuant to the provisions of RCW 34.05.470 and WAC 390-37-150, you may file a Petition for  
Reconsideration with the PDC within ten (10) days from the date this Final Order is served upon  
you. Any Request for reconsideration must state the specific grounds for the relief requested.  
Petitions must be delivered or mailed to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission,  
711 Capitols Way, Room 206, Box 40908, Olympia WA 98504-0908.

**NOTICE:    PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**

1 You have the right to appeal this Final Order to Superior Court, pursuant to the Petition for  
2 Judicial Review provisions of RCW 34.05.542. Any Petition for Judicial Review of this Final  
3 Order must be filed with the court and also served upon both the Commission and the Office of  
4 the Attorney general within thirty (30) days after the date this Final Order is served upon you.  
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