



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Tabitha Townsend, Compliance Coordinator 2

Date: October 4, 2021

Subject: Dale Thornton (Respondent); PDC Case 93983; Reconsideration Hearing

Matter for Review:

At the Brief Enforcement Hearing held on July 15, 2021, the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to file the F-1 report no later than April 15, 2021, and was assessed a \$300 penalty, consistent with WAC 390-37-143, the Brief Enforcement Hearing penalty schedule adopted by the Commission. The Presiding Officer suspended \$150 of the \$300 penalty conditioned upon the Respondent filing the missing F-1 report and paying the non-suspended \$150 penalty within 30 days of the Initial Order being served.

Background:

- Dale Thornton (the “Respondent”) served as School Director for KIONA BENTON SD 052 during calendar year 2020. His current term expires December 31, 2023.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, an elected or appointed official who held office in 2020 was required to file an F-1 report, disclosing financial information for calendar year 2020, no later than April 15, 2021.
- The Respondent has one (1) prior violation of RCW 42.17A.700 with the PDC. PDC Case# 80188 CY2019 F-1, due April 15, 2020. This prior case was paid on February 18, 2021 (\$150, full penalty) and the CY 2019 F-1 has been filed on July 2, 2021.
- Between February and May of 2021, PDC staff sent email reminders to all elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2020.
- On May 11, 2021, PDC staff emailed warning letters to elected and appointed official regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2020.

Dale Thornton

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- On June 28, 2021, PDC staff emailed the Respondent a hearing notice for a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) to be held on July 15, 2021. The hearing notice was sent to the Respondent's email address-of-record.
- On August 16, 2021, PDC staff served the Initial Order memorializing the Commission's ruling, by email, to the contact email address-of-record.
- The Respondent filed the F-1 report covering calendar year 2020 activity on July 2, 2021.
- On October 4, 2021, PDC staff served the Respondent, by email, with a hearing notice for a October 12, 2021 Reconsideration Hearing before the Public Disclosure Commission, along with instructions on how to participate in the hearing remotely.

Request for Review:

- On August 16, 2021, the Respondent, submitted written materials to PDC staff to appeal the August 16, 2021 Order based on the fact that he had medical issues and was unaware of the hearing or penalty.