

State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Tabitha Townsend, Compliance Coordinator

Date: January 14, 2022

Subject: William (Beau) Burkett; PDC Case 95222; Reconsideration Hearing

Matter for Review:

During a Enforcement Hearing held on October 28, 2021, William (Beau) Burkett was found to haveviolated RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021 and RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to timely file a Campaign Registration (C-1 report) within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021. At the October 28, 2021 Enforcement Hearing, an Order imposing a \$1,500 penalty was entered with \$500 of the penalty for the late C-1 report and \$1,000 for the late F-1 report, which PDC Staff now requests the Commission review.

Background:

- William (Beau) Burkett (the "Respondent") was a candidate for Mayor of the City of Buckley during the 2021 Election Cycle.
- 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.
- On October 18, 2021, PDC staff emailed the Respondent a hearing notice for the Enforcement Hearing to be held on October 28, 2021. The hearing notice was sent to the Respondent's email address-of-record as well as mailed to the two mailing addresses-of-record on October 18, 2021 via USPS.

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- At the Enforcement Hearing held on October 28, 2021, the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.205 and .700 for failure to timely file the C-1 and F-1 reports within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021, and was assessed a \$1,500 penalty, consistent with WAC 390-37-182, the Enforcement Hearing penalty schedule adopted by the Commission.
- On November 16, 2021, PDC staff served the Initial Order memorializing the Commission's ruling, by email and mail, to the contact email and mailing addresses-of-record.
- The Respondent filed the F-1 report covering the prior twelve months of activity on October 27, 2021.
- The Respondent filed the C-1 report for the 2021 election year on October 27, 2021.
- January 13, 2022 PDC Staff emailed the Hearing Notice for Reconsideration to the Respondent.

Request for Reconsideration:

- PDC Staff reviewed the jurisdiction requirements and found that the Respondent was in an "F" filing jurisdiction and not required to file the C-1 report for the 2021 Mayoral campaign.
- The \$500 penalty for the late filing of the C-1 report should be vacated as well as the violation of RCW 42.17A.205 as it was not applicable. This was staff error in the charging of this allegation in the original proceedings.