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5 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**  
6 **OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

7 In Re: The Matter of Enforcement Action  
8 Against:

9 EDGAR OOMS,  
10 Respondent.  
11

PDC CASE NO. 95251

FINAL ORDER ON REQUEST  
FOR RECONSIDERATION

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13 This matter was heard at the Regular Meeting of the Washington State Public Disclosure  
14 Commission (Commission) on October 28, 2021, by telephonic and online streaming access.  
15 Edgar Ooms (Respondent) requested reconsideration of the Presiding Officer's Order, issued  
16 following a Brief Enforcement Hearing (Brief Adjudicative Proceeding) held August 12, 2021.  
17 The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37  
18 WAC.

19 Commissioners present were Fred Jarrett, Commission Chair (presiding); Nancy Isserlis,  
20 Commission Vice-Chair; and Commissioners William Downing and Allen Hayward. Also  
21 present both telephonically and online were Assistant Attorney General John S. Meader  
22 representing the Commission, Assistant Attorney General Chad Standifer, representing PDC  
23 Staff, and Tabatha Blacksmith, PDC Compliance Coordinator. The Respondent appeared on his  
24 own behalf. The proceeding was open to the public as limited by Governor's Proclamation 20-  
25 28 *et seq.* and recorded.

26 The Commissioners had before them the following materials:

1. Case memorandum dated October 28, 2021, prepared by Tabatha Blacksmith, PDC Compliance Coordinator;
2. Brief Enforcement Hearing Notice, served July 22, 2021;
3. Respondent's emails and PDC responses dated July 19, 2021, through July 22, 2021;
4. Initial Order Imposing Fine, issued September 13, 2021;
5. Candidate information from the Secretary of State for Rainier School District 307, voter count, jurisdiction map, and candidacy details.
6. Respondent's request for reconsideration and related emails, received August 12, 2021, through October 13, 2021;
7. Reconsideration Hearing Notice, served October 18, 2021.

## I. FINDINGS OF FACT

This matter involves Edgar Ooms (Respondent), a candidate for School Director for Rainier School District 307 during election year 2021. During a Brief Enforcement Hearing held on August 12, 2021, Respondent was found to have violated RCW 42.17A.700 for failure to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 Report) within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021. At the Brief Enforcement Hearing an Order imposing a \$250 civil fine, with \$125 suspended, was entered. The Respondent has no prior violations of RCW 42.17A.700 with the PDC.

1. In May and June of 2021, PDC staff sent email reminders to all candidates for election year 2021 regarding their missing F-1 reports.

2. On June 16, 2021, PDC staff emailed the Respondent a warning notice regarding the missing F-1 report. The notice was sent to Respondent's email address-of-record.

3. On July 22, 2021, PDC staff emailed a hearing notice for a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing), to be held on August 12, 2021, to Respondent's email address-of-record.

1           4.       On July 22, 2021, PDC staff responded to two emails from the Respondent where  
2 he stated his belief that he was not required to file an F-1 report because his jurisdiction had less  
3 than 2000 registered voters. PDC staff informed him that Rainier School District 307 had 4,120  
4 registered voters in the 2020 general election and an F-1 report was required.

5           5.       Between August 12, 2021, and October 13, 2021, Respondent sent a series of  
6 emails disputing the reporting requirements.

7           6.       On September 15, 2021, PDC staff served the Initial Order memorializing the  
8 Commission's ruling, by email, to the Respondent's contact email address-of-record.

9           7.       On October 5, 2021, PDC staff received an email requesting the case be  
10 reconsidered based upon the Respondent's uncertainty of how jurisdiction for reporting  
11 requirements is determined.

12           8.       On October 18, 2021, PDC staff served Respondent, by email, with a hearing  
13 notice for an October 28, 2021 Reconsideration hearing before the Commission, along with  
14 instructions on how to participate in the hearing remotely.

15           9.       Rainier School District has 4,120 registered voters according to the 2020 Election  
16 Database information from the Secretary of State. There are five School Director positions  
17 within the District. The Respondent is a candidate for Position Four.

18           10.      As of the date of this hearing, the F-1 report has not been filed covering the prior  
19 twelve months financial activity.

## 21                                   **II.       CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

22           1.       The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to Chapter  
23 42.17A RCW, the State campaign finance and disclosure law; Chapter 34.05 RCW, the  
24 Administrative Procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC.

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26           2.       Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, a candidate for office in 2021 was required to file

1 an F-1 report disclosing financial information for the prior twelve months within two  
2 weeks of becoming a candidate or not later than June 4, 2021.

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4 3. The Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file the F-1  
5 report for calendar year 2020 that was due no later than June 4, 2021.

## 6 7 **II. ORDER**

8 The Request for Reconsideration is GRANTED. This Order on Reconsideration will be  
9 the Final Order. The civil penalty of \$250, with \$125 suspended, imposed at the August 12,  
10 2021, hearing is MODIFIED as follows:

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12 1. Respondent Edgar Ooms is assessed a total civil penalty of \$250, with \$250  
13 suspended, on the following conditions:

- 14 a. The missing F-1 Report is filed with the PDC within 30 days of the date  
15 of this Final Order.
- 16  
17 b. The Respondent remains in full compliance with all PDC reporting  
18 requirements and is not found to have committed any further violations of  
19 Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC within four years of the date of  
20 this Final Order. The suspended penalty shall not be assessed based solely  
21 upon any remediable violation, minor violation, or error classified by the  
22 Commission as appropriate to address by a technical correction.

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2 SO ORDERED this 16th day of November, 2021.

3 WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC  
4 DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

5 FOR THE COMMISSION:

6 

7 Fred Jarrett,  
8 Chair, Public Disclosure Commission

9 *This order sent by email to:*  
10 Edgar Ooms, Respondent  
11 [Edgar.ooms@connorn.com](mailto:Edgar.ooms@connorn.com)

12 Tabatha Blacksmith,  
13 PDC Compliance Coordinator,  
14 [tabatha.blacksmith@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:tabatha.blacksmith@pdc.wa.gov)

I, Tabatha Blacksmith, certify that I emailed a copy of this  
order to the Respondent at his respective email address.

e-signed Tabatha Blacksmith  
Signed

November 16, 2021  
Date

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16  
17 **NOTICE: PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**

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