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

9 In Re: The Matter of Enforcement Action
10 Against:

PDC CASE NO. 95396

FINAL ORDER

11 RONNIE LITTLE,
12 Respondent.
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15 This matter was heard remotely by the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission
16 (Commission) on October 28, 2021, by telephonic and online streaming access. Respondent
17 Ronnie Little was provided notice on October 14, 2021, of the hearing date. The hearing was
18 held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37 WAC.

19 Commissioners present both telephonically and online were Fred Jarrett, Commission
20 Chair (presiding); Nancy Isserlis, Commission Vice-Chair; and Commissioners William
21 Downing and Allen Hayward. Also present both telephonically and online were Assistant
22 Attorney General John S. Meader representing the Commission, Assistant Attorney General
23 Chad Standifer representing PDC Staff, and Tabitha Townsend, PDC Compliance Coordinator.
24 Notice was provided to the Respondent and she did not appear on her own behalf. The
25 proceeding was open to the public as limited by Governor's Proclamation 20-25 *et. seq.* and
26 recorded.

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2 The Commissioners had before them the following materials:

- 3 1. Case memorandum dated October 18, 2021, prepared by Tabitha Townsend, PDC
4 Compliance Coordinator;
5 2. Hearing Notice, mailed and dated October 14, 2021;
6 3. Hearing Notice, emailed and dated October 18, 2021;
7 4. F-1 Reports dated March 5, 2018, for CY 2017, and February 28, 2019, for CY 2018;
8 5. Order Imposing Fine, PDC Case 80252, for missing F-1 report for CY 2019, dated
9 March 11, 2021;
10 6. Order Imposing Fine, PDC Case 25923, for missing F-1 report for CY 2016, dated
11 March 5, 2018;
12 7. WAC 390-37-182, Penalty Schedule.
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14 **I. FINDINGS OF FACT**

15 The matter involves Respondent Ronnie Little, an incumbent and candidate for Fire
16 Commissioner for King County Fire Protection District #40 in the 2021 election cycle. She has
17 served since 2009 and her current term expires December 31, 2021. Respondent is alleged to
18 have violated RCW 42.17A.205 for failure to timely file a Candidate Registration (C-1 Report)
19 within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021, and RCW 42.17A.700
20 for failure to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 Report) with the Public
21 Disclosure Commission no later than April 15, 2021, disclosing financial information for the
22 calendar year 2020. The Respondent has an outstanding penalty balance of \$3,100 with the PDC,
23 including two prior violations within the statute of limitations. Due to the prior violations, the
24 case was brought directly to the full Commission for review.
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1. The current C-1 and F-1 Reports have not been filed as of the date of this hearing.
2. There are two prior cases for violations of RCW 42.17A.700:
 - PDC Case 80252. At a February 25, 2021, Enforcement Hearing, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file F-1 reports for calendar year 2019, which was due not later than April 15, 2020. A total civil penalty of \$1,500 was assessed in accordance with the penalty schedule adopted by the Commission that was in effect at that time.
 - PDC Case 25923. At a February 27, 2018, Enforcement Hearing, Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2016, that was due not later than April 17, 2017. A civil penalty of \$1,000 was assessed in accordance with the penalty schedule adopted by the Commission that was in effect at that time.
4. The Respondent filed her F-1 covering the calendar year 2017 on March 5, 2018;
5. The Respondent filed her F-1 covering the calendar year 2018 on February 28, 2019.
6. On October 14, 2021, PDC staff served the Respondent, by mail, with a hearing notice for an October 28, 2021, Enforcement Hearing along with instructions on how to participate in the hearing remotely. On October 18, 2021, PDC Staff served the Respondent by email with the same notice.

II. 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 Procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC.
2. Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.205, a candidate for election year 2021, was required to file a C-1 Report within two weeks of candidacy or no later than June 4, 2021.
3. Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, an incumbent candidate for election year 2021 was required to file an F-1 Report, disclosing financial information for calendar year 2020 no later than April 15, 2021

III. ORDER

This Order will be the Final Order. After consideration of the mitigating and aggravating factors, the Findings of Fact, and the Conclusions of Law, the Commission assesses a civil penalty of \$1,000 for the late filed C-1 Report and \$3,000 for the late filed F-1 Report for a total civil fine of \$4,000.


- a. Payment of the civil fine shall be made in full within 30 days of the issuance of this order. If payment is not made within 30 days of the issuance of this order, the amount owing may be send to collection without further action of the Commission.
- b. The Respondent shall remain in full compliance with all PDC reporting

1 requirements and shall not be found to have committed any further
2 violations of Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC within four years
3 of the date of this Final Order.
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6 SO ORDERED this 16th day of November 2021.

7 WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC
8 DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

9 FOR THE COMMISSION:

10 

11 Fred Jarrett,
12 Chair, Public Disclosure Commission
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14 *This order sent by email to:*

15 Ronnie Little, Respondent
16 Ronnie751@yahoo.com
17 rlittle@fd40.com

18 Tabitha Townsend,
19 PDC Compliance Coordinator,
20 pdc@pdc.wa.gov
21

I, Tabitha Townsend, certify that I emailed a copy of this order to
the Respondent at his respective email and mailing addresses.

Electronically Signed by Tabitha Townsend November 16, 2021
Signed Date

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2 **NOTICE: RECONSIDERATION**

3 Pursuant to the provisions of RCW 34.05.470 and WAC 390-37-150, you may file a Petition for
4 Reconsideration with the PDC within ten (10) days from the date this Final Order is served upon
5 you. Any Request for reconsideration must state the specific grounds for the relief requested.
6 Petitions must be delivered or mailed to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission,
7 711 Capitols Way, Room 206, Box 40908, Olympia WA 98504-0908.

8 **NOTICE: PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**

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