



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Tabitha Townsend, Compliance Coordinator 2

Date: October 6, 2021

Subject: Melvin Taylor; PDC Case 95410; Review Hearing

Matter for Review:

At the Brief Enforcement Hearing held on August 12, 2021, the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.205 by failing to timely file a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) and RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report), disclosing personal financial information for the preceding twelve months, which were due to be filed within two weeks of candidacy or no later than June 4, 2021, and was assessed a \$500 penalty, consistent with WAC 390-37-143, the Brief Enforcement Hearing penalty schedule adopted by the Commission. The Presiding Officer suspended \$200 of the \$500 penalty conditioned upon the Respondent filing the missing C-1 and F-1 reports and paying the non-suspended \$300 penalty within 30 days of the Initial Order being served.

Background:

- Melvin Taylor (the “Respondent”) is or was a candidate for City Council Member for the City of Aberdeen during the 2021 election cycle.
- The Respondent has no prior violations of RCW 42.17A.205 or RCW 42.17A.700 with the PDC.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.205 and .700, a 2021 candidate were required to file C-1 and F-1 reports within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 4, 2021.
- In May and June of 2021, PDC staff sent email reminders to all candidates for election year 2021 regarding their missing C-1 report, F-1 report, or both.
- On June 17, 2021, PDC staff emailed the Respondent a warning notice regarding the missing C-1 and F-1 reports. The notice was sent to the Respondent’s email address-of-record.

Melvin Taylor

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- On July 21, 2021, PDC staff emailed the Respondent a hearing notice for a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) to be held on August 12, 2021. The hearing notice was sent to the Respondent's email address-of-record meltaylor97@gmail.com.
- On September 15, 2021, PDC staff served the Initial Order memorializing the Commission's ruling, by email, to the contact email address-of-record meltaylor97@gmail.com.
- The Respondent filed the F-1 report covering prior twelve months activity on September 2, 2021.
- The Respondent filed the C-1 report on September 2, 2021.

Request for Review:

- On September 22, 2021, the Respondent, submitted written materials to PDC staff to appeal the September 15, 2021 Order based on a financial hardship.