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7 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**  
8 **OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
9

10 In re the Matter of Enforcement Action  
11 Against:

PDC CASE NO. 100925

12 DAVID STRADER,

FINAL ORDER

13 Respondent.  
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16 **I. INTRODUCTION**  
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18 This matter was heard remotely by the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission  
19 (PDC, Commission) on February 24, 2022, by audio and online streaming. The hearing was  
20 held pursuant to Chapter 34.05 RCW, Chapter 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37 WAC.

21 Commissioners present both telephonically and online were Fred Jarrett, Commission  
22 Chair (presiding); Nancy Isserlis, Commission Vice-Chair; and Commissioners William  
23 Downing, Allen Hayward, and Jocelyn Cooney. Also present both telephonically and online  
24 were Assistant Attorney General John S. Meader representing the Commission; Assistant  
25 Attorney General Chad Standifer representing PDC staff; and Erick Agina, Compliance Officer,  
26 for PDC Staff. David Strader also appeared telephonically and online. The proceeding was open

1 to the public as limited by Governor's Order 20-28 *et seq.* and recorded.

2 The hearing concerned allegations that the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.205 and  
3 .700 for failure to timely and accurately file Candidate Registration (C-1) and Personal Financial  
4 Affairs Statement (F-1) reports, as required by law.

5 The Commissioners had before them the following materials:

- 6 • Report of Investigation for Case #100925 prepared by PDC Compliance Officer Erick Agina,  
7 dated January 12, 2022, which included:
  - 8 ○ Notice of Administrative Charges, dated January 12, 2022;
  - 9 ○ Report of Investigation, dated January 12, 2022;
  - 10 ○ Complaint filed by Richard Cosner against the Respondent, dated  
11 November 9, 2021;
  - 12 ○ Statement of Termination of Campaign Candidacy, dated June 14, 2021;
  - 13 ○ C-1 and F-1 Reports filed November 1, 2021;
  - 14 ○ Response to the complaint from Respondent dated November 30, 2021;
  - 15 ○ Response to PDC Staff follow-up questions by the Respondent, dated  
16 December 30, 2021.
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- 18 • Proposed Stipulation as to Facts and Violations, submitted by the parties and signed on  
19 January 14, 2022, by Peter Lavalley, Executive Director, for the PDC, and on January 12,  
20 2022, by David Strader, Respondent.

## 21 22 **II. STIPULATION**

23 The parties jointly submitted a signed Stipulation as to Facts and Violations (Stipulation).  
24 Mr. Standifer presented the Stipulation, reviewed the aggravating and mitigating factors,  
25 summarized the penalties recommended by PDC Staff, and asked the Commission to accept the  
26 Stipulation. Mr. Strader provided testimony on his behalf, answered questions, and confirmed

1 the information provided by Mr. Standifer. The Respondent took responsibility and asked the  
2 Commission to accept the Stipulation. The Commission voted 5-0 to accept the Stipulation as  
3 submitted.

### 4 5 **III. FINDINGS OF FACT**

6 1. Respondent David Strader was a first-time candidate for public office in 2021 seeking  
7 the office of City Council Member, Position 5, for the City of Milton. Respondent submitted his  
8 Declaration of Candidacy on May 21, 2021, to the appropriate election office. His Voters'  
9 Pamphlet statement was submitted to the King County Elections Office on May 28, 2021.  
10 Respondent has no prior violations with the PDC.

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12 2. On June 14, 2021, Respondent submitted a signed Notice of Termination of Campaign  
13 Statement to the PDC and in it he represented that he would not accept the office. He also agreed  
14 that, if he were elected and accepted the office, the PDC could conduct enforcement for his  
15 failure to file the reports required by Chapter 42.17A RCW.

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17 3. On October 25, 2021, Respondent contacted the PDC to notify staff that he missed  
18 the deadline to get his name off the ballot and wanted to know what the penalty was if he chose  
19 to accept the office.

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21 4. On November 1, 2021, Respondent filed his Candidate Registration (C-1), and  
22 Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1), 149 days late. As a result, they were not available  
23 to voters until one day before Election Day.

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25 5. On November 9, 2021, PDC Staff received a complaint against the Respondent  
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1 regarding his prior termination of candidacy and failure to timely file the C-1 and F-1 reports.  
2 Mr. Strader responded to the complaint on November 30, 2021.

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4 6. On December 29, 2021, PDC Staff sent an email to the Respondent with follow-up  
5 questions. He was asked:

- 6 a. If he engaged in any campaign activities to support his candidacy?
- 7 b. If he met with, emailed, called or texted any voters of the City of Milton  
8 requesting they vote for him or support his candidacy?
- 9 c. If he produced/printed any political advertisement (campaign  
10 information/literature/signs or other materials) related to his candidacy?
- 11 d. If he posted any information about his candidacy on social media  
12 platforms?
- 13 e. If he engaged in any of those activities between June 14, 2021, when he  
14 completed the Termination of Candidacy, and October 20, 2021?
- 15 f. What factor(s) prompted him to get back into the race after signing a  
16 Notice of Termination of Candidacy Statement on June 14, 2021?

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18 7. Mr. Strader responded on December 30, 2021, that he did not engage in any  
19 campaign activities to support his candidacy after signing the Notice of Termination of  
20 Candidacy Statement. He generally described the factors prompting him to get back into the  
21 race as a reevaluation of his decision based on concerns about “fair play” on the City Council  
22 that had overcome his privacy concerns with filing the F-1 form.

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1 **IV. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

2 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to Chapter 42.17A  
3 RCW, the state campaign finance and disclosure law; Chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative  
4 Procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC.

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6 2. Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.205, a candidate for election year 2021 was required to  
7 file a C-1 Report within two weeks of candidacy or no later than June 4, 2021.

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9 3. Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, a candidate for election year 2021 was required  
10 to file an F-1 Report, disclosing financial information for the prior twelve months, within two  
11 weeks of candidacy or no later than June 4, 2021.

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13 **V. ORDER**

14 Based upon the stipulated Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Commission  
15 accepts the agreed Stipulation of the parties as to Facts and Violations and orders that:

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17 1. The Respondent pay a total civil penalty of \$1,500 with \$750 suspended on the  
18 following conditions:

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20 a. Respondent is not found to have committed any further violations of  
21 Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC, within four years of the date of  
22 the Final Order in this matter. The suspended penalty shall not be  
23 assessed based solely upon any remediable violation, minor violation, or  
24 error classified by the Commission as appropriate to address by a  
25 technical correction.  
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3 **NOTICE: RECONSIDERATION**

4 Pursuant to the provisions of RCW 34.05.470 and WAC 390-37-150, you may file a Petition for  
5 Reconsideration with the PDC within ten (10) days from the date this Final Order is served upon  
6 you. Any Request for reconsideration must state the specific grounds for the relief requested.  
7 Petitions must be electronically mailed to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission,  
8 711 Capitol Way, Room 206, Box 40908, Olympia WA 98504-0908, [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

9 **NOTICE: PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**

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