



State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908  
(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

**Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdcc.wa.gov](http://www.pdcc.wa.gov)**

September 29, 2022

Melissa Vanderwerf  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia WA 98504

And delivered electronically to [Melissa.Vanderwerf@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Melissa.Vanderwerf@leg.wa.gov)

Subject: PDC Order, Case 110532

Dear Melissa Vanderwerf,

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Disclosure Commission's Order Imposing Fine that was entered in the above-referenced case.

At the September 1, 2022 Brief Enforcement hearing, the Presiding Officer assessed a total civil penalty of \$250, of which \$125 is suspended in accordance with WAC 390-37-143. The \$125 non-suspended penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of this Order.

The \$125 non-suspended penalty is payable no later than October 31, 2022.

Please make the check or money order payable to "WA State Treasurer" and mail the payment to the following address:

Public Disclosure Commission  
PO Box 40908  
Olympia, WA 98504-0908

It is also ordered that you file the missing Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) within 30 days of this order. If you have already filed your report, please contact our office to make sure your case is noted.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have questions, please contact us by email at [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov)

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed by Tabitha Townsend  
PDC Staff

Enclosure: Initial Order



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A

PDC Case 110532

Melissa Vanderwerf  
Respondent.

Findings of Fact,  
Conclusions of Law, and  
**Order Imposing Fine**

Pursuant to the notice of brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) sent to Melissa Vanderwerf on July 22, 2022, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on September 1, 2022, remotely from Olympia, WA by live audio and online transmission. The purpose of the hearing was to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) for calendar year 2021, which was due to be filed no later than April 15, 2022.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW, 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commissioner Fred Jarrett was the Presiding Officer. The Compliance Coordinators Tabatha Blacksmith, Tabitha Townsend and Jordan Campbell represented PDC Staff. The Respondent did not participate in the hearing or submit any written materials.

Having considered the evidence, the Presiding Officer finds as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent is an elected or appointed official for PROFESSIONAL STAFF of HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
2. As an elected or appointed official, RCW 42.17A.700 required the Respondent to file an F-1 report by April 15, 2022.
3. The Respondent did not file the F-1 report by the date of the enforcement hearing.
4. The Respondent has no prior violations.

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## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above facts, as a matter of law, the Presiding Officer concludes as follows:

1. This matter was duly and properly convened, and all jurisdictional, substantive, and procedural requirements have been satisfied.
2. The Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file the F-1 report by April 15, 2022.

## ORDER

ON the basis of the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law,

1. **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent shall file the missing F-1 report and is assessed a total civil penalty of \$250, in accordance with the Annual F-1 penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143.**
2. **It is further ordered that \$125 of the \$250 penalty is suspended on the following conditions:**
  - a. **The Respondent does not commit any further violations of Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC within four years of the date of this Order. The suspended penalty shall not be assessed based solely upon any remediable violation, minor violation, or error classified by the Commission as appropriate to address by a technical correction.**
  - b. **The Respondent pays the \$125 non-suspended civil penalty within 30 days of the date of this Order.**
  - c. **The Respondent files the missing F-1 report within 30 days of the date of this Order.**
3. **It is further ordered that, if the Respondent fails to comply with any of the above conditions:**
  - a. **The full \$250 penalty shall immediately become due without further action by the Commission and PDC Staff is directed to refer the matter to collections and/or commence other legal proceedings as authorized by RCW 42.17A and 390 WAC.**
  - b. **The missing F-1 report shall be due immediately.**

This is an **Initial Order** of the Public Disclosure Commission.

Entered this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022.

Public Disclosure Commission

*Electronically signed by Peter Lavallee*

Peter Lavallee

Executive Director

I, Tabitha Townsend, certify that I mailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their respective address postage pre-paid, on the date stated herein. I certify that I also emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their email address of record.

Electronically Signed by Tabitha Townsend September 29, 2022

Signed

Date

# APPEALS OF INITIAL ORDER

## REVIEW OF INITIAL ORDER - BY THE COMMISSION

You may request that the full Commission review this initial order. To seek review, you must:

- Make the request by email, stating the reason for review, and identifying what alleged errors are contained in the initial order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(1).
- All requests for review must be submitted electronically to [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) **REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION WITHIN TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE THIS INITIAL ORDER WAS ELECTRONICALLY DISTRIBUTED TO YOU.**

If review of this initial order is timely requested, the full Commission will hear the matter. If the Commission is unable to schedule a meeting to consider the request within twenty (20) calendar days, this initial order becomes a final order, and any request for review will automatically be considered a request for reconsideration of a final order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(4). The matter would then be scheduled for consideration and disposition at the next Commission meeting at which it is practicable to do so.

A Respondent does not need to pay a penalty until after the Commission rules on a request for review of an initial order.

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## FURTHER APPEAL RIGHTS – SUPERIOR COURT

If the Commission does not receive a request for review of this initial order within twenty-one (21) calendar days, the initial order shall be the FINAL ORDER. *See* WAC 390-37-142(7).

**YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL A FINAL ORDER TO SUPERIOR COURT, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW PROVISIONS OF RCW 34.05.542.**