#### **Respondent Name(s)**

Anthony Martinelli

#### **Complainant Name(s)**

Glen Morgan

#### **Complaint Description**

Glen Morgan reported via the portal (*Thu*, 15 Sep 2022 at 1:08 PM)

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention, once again, that former Des Moines City Councilmember Anthony Marinelli appears to have violated Washington State's campaign finance laws (**RCW 42.17A**), repeatedly while serving on the Des Moines City Council for a handful of years before he was forced to resign for some Domestic Violence arrests against three different women in 2021. I will detail these violations below:

#### 1) Failure to file Financial Affairs Report for 2021 (Violation of RCW 42.17A.700)

While it appears that PDC staff have already filed this complaint against former Des Moines Councilmember Martinelli (See **Enforcement Case #110525**), this is only part of the legal violations committed by this former Democrat Party endorsed elected official.

# 2) Concealment of personal assets from Financial Affairs Reports for 2019 and 2020 (Violation of RCW 42.17A.710(1)(b))

Even when forced to comply with the statue based on previous efforts I have made to help this politician comply with the law (See **PDC Enforcement Case #57748** attached), this candidate and elected official still failed to comply with the law.

Specifically, I have attached both of the existing F1s which were filed by this candidate many months late in 2020 (for calendar year 2019) and his late F1 filed in 2021 (for calendar year 2020). In both of these documents, Martinelli claims No assets of any kind, including not even a bank account. This is highly doubtful for anyone running for office, particularly someone who owned a business, ran for office, and served on the Des Moines City Council.

As further support of this reporting deficiency, see the attached F1 filed by Burien City Councilmember Cydney Moore who claims "child support" as her only source of income from Anthony Martinelli. How does Burien City Councilmember Cydney Moore receive these child support payments from former Des Moines City Councilmember Martinelli without a bank account? In addition, why did Martinelli not report his child support payments to Burien City Councilmember Cydney Moore on his F1 as a debt? Clearly, even for these guys, the payments must exceed the minimum reporting threshold of \$2500 on an annual basis?

So, in addition to the PDC staff hearing and investigation which is ongoing in this case for Martinelli for just failing to file any F1 report for 2021, it should be noted that he did not resign from the Des Moines City Council until partway through 2022. His resignation came after he was finally caught and arrested for domestic violence against at least three different women victims (see Seattle Times articles and the SCORE Jail Booking History for his arrest in 2021, attached for reference).

Regardless of Martinelli's other legal troubles, arrest records, domestic violence convictions, future aspirations as a Democratic Party endorsed candidate for public office, and his failure or success at paying his child support obligations to nearby City Councilmembers, it might be worthwhile for PDC staff to not only assist this wayward politician in his long and tortuous road to compliance, it might save future PDC staff time to helpfully remind Martinelli that he will need to file another F1 report for the time he served on the Des Moines City Council in 2022.

Please feel free to let me know if you need further evidence or information in this case.

Best Regards,

Glen Morgan

57748 Martinelli Anthony Reminder Letter.pdf 175.74 KB

MOORE CYDNEY M\_F1\_2019.pdf 481.69 KB

AbuseAllegationsGrowAgainstAnthonyMartinelli (1).pdf 1.55 MB

Des Moines council member accused of domestic violence resigns \_ The Seattle Times.pdf 415.38 KB

AnthonyMartinelli--F1\_Covering\_2020.pdf 519.7 KB

AnthonyMartinelli--F1\_Covering\_2019.pdf 478.28 KB

AnthonyMartinelli\_BookingHistory--SCORE-Jail\_Inmate\_Lookup\_System.pdf 129.31 KB

#### What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?

Even when a sitting city councilmember is arrested and forced to resign from the Des Moines City Council due to domestic abuse against women, they are still obligated to follow the campaign finance laws of Washington State. Arrest, committing domestic abuse, and other excuses are not justification for either falsifying documents filed with the PDC or failing to file these documents in the first place. The public has a right to know if this candidate is making their child support payments to other public officials, and the public has a right to know the truth about this candidate's financial affairs. Concealing this information from the public is a serious problem, particularly when a candidate has a long history of these types of violations.

#### List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found

SCORE booking arrest data included

Multiple Seattle Times articles about Martinelli's resignation and domestic abuse accusations and arrest are included.

Previous late filed, and deficient F1s are filed

Burien City Councilmember Cydney Moore's F1 is included for reference of the missing child support payments/ bank account data

#### List of potential witnesses with contact information to reach them

It is probably worth interviewing Burien City Councilmember Cydney Moore about the child support payments missing from Martinelli's reports. If Martinelli is not in jail, he can probably be interviewed directly by PDC staff.

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



# 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: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

December 12, 2019

Delivered electronically to Anthony Martinelli at "info@martinelliforcouncil.com"

Subject: Complaint filed by Glen Morgan, PDC Case 57748

Dear Mr. Martinelli:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Glen Morgan concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Mr. Morgan, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of the timely and accurate disclosure of all expenditure activities, specifically including any required detail and vendor breakdown as prescribed in WAC, the timely and accurate disclosure of candidate's personal funds deposited into the campaign account, and the timely and accurate disclosure of all reportable financial information on F-1 reports. PDC staff expects in the future that you will timely and accurate file reports of campaign activities and personal financial affairs information in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

If you have questions, you may contact Jennifer Hansen at 1-360-586-4560, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,	Endorsed by,		
/s	/s		
Jennifer Hansen	Barbara Sandahl		
Compliance Officer	Deputy Director		
	For Peter Lavallee		
	Executive Director		



# State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

December 12, 2019

Delivered electronically to Glen Morgan at "glen@wethegoverned.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Anthony Martinelli, PDC Case 57748

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on September 20, 2019. The complaint alleged that Anthony Martinelli, a candidate for Des Moines City Council, Position 6 in 2019, may have violated: (1) RCW 42.17A.235, RCW 42.17A.240 & WAC 390-16-037 for failure to timely and accurately describe expenditures on Summary Full Campaign Contribution and Expenditure reports (C-4 reports) for election year 2017 & 2019; (2) RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 for failure to timely and accurately file Monetary Contribution reports (C-3 reports); and (3) RCW 42.17A.700 & .710 for failure to timely and accurately file Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) as a candidate.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by Mr. Martinelli; the applicable PDC reports filed by Respondent; and queried the Respondent's data in the PDC contribution and expenditure database, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- Anthony Martinelli (Martinelli for Des Moines City Council) filed a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) on January 6, 2019, declaring his candidacy for Des Moines City Council, Position 6 in 2019, and choosing the "Full Reporting" option. Apart from approximately one month in the first quarter of calendar year 2019, Mr. Martinelli served as his own treasurer for the campaign.
- On January 23, 2019, Mr. Martinelli filed a candidate F-1 report disclosing personal financial information for the previous twelve months. Mr. Martinelli submitted an amendment to the F-1 on October 25, 2019 to disclose a reportable business ownership.
- Mr. Martinelli (Elect Martinelli) filed a C-1 report declaring his candidacy for Des Moines City Council, Position 1 in 2017 election, and choosing the "Full Reporting" option.

Allegation 1: Violation of RCW 42.17A.235, .240 & WAC 390-16-037 for failure to timely and accurately describe expenditures connected to the production of campaign signs and other political advertising costs on C-4 reports for election year 2017 & 2019.

• On April 1, 2019, the Martinelli for Des Moines City Council campaign filed a C-4 report disclosing a \$902 expenditure on March 15, 2019 made to Signs By Tomorrow for "yard signs and frames" for election year 2019.

- On July 18, 2017, the 2017 Elect Martinelli campaign filed a C-4 report disclosing a \$247.04 expenditure on June 5, 2017 to Signs By Tomorrow for "yard signs" and a \$108 expenditure on June 30, 2017 to LOL Dudez, LLC for "online advertising". On October 17, 2017, the 2017 Elect Martinelli campaign filed a C-4 report disclosing a \$400 expenditure on September 10, 2017 to Facebook for "Facebook ads for the Elect Martinelli page" and a \$247.04 expenditure on September 30, 2017 to Signs By Tomorrow for "yard signs".
- The complaint alleged that the descriptions were insufficient and not consistent with examples identified in WAC.
- In his response, Mr. Martinelli stated that he believed the number of yard signs did not need to be included in expenditure descriptions and that the C-4 reports referenced in the complaint would be amended.
- On October 28, 2019, the Martinelli for Des Moines City Council campaign submitted an amended C-4 to include a more detailed description of the 2019 election expenditure that included the number of yard signs and stakes purchased.
- On November 20, 2017, the 2017 Elect Martinelli campaign submitted two amended C-4 reports to include a more detailed description of the 2017 election expenditure that included the number of yard signs and the advertising services provided by LOL Dudez, LLC and Facebook.
- Two additional C-4 reports for election year 2019 and two C-4 reports for election year 2017, not specifically referenced in the complaint, were amended to include detailed descriptions for advertising expenditures.

Allegation 2: Violation of RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 for failure to timely and accurately disclose candidate's personal funds on C-3 reports.

- On March 31, 2019, the Martinelli for Des Moines City Council campaign filed a C-3 report disclosing receipt of a \$1,500 contribution in personal funds from the candidate but showed an aggregate total of candidate contributions of \$1,525. An additional \$500 contribution of candidate personal funds was received on April 18, 2019 and disclosed on a C-3 report filed April 22, 2019 but showed an aggregate total of \$2,927.
- The complaint alleged that the \$902 included in the aggregate total on the April 22, 2019 C-3 report had not been properly accounted for on other C-3 or C-4 reports submitted by the campaign.
- In his response, Mr. Martinelli stated that the \$902 dollars was an expenditure that had mistakenly been entered as personal funds.
- On December 9, 2019, the Martinelli for Des Moines City Council campaign submitted two amended C-3 to correct the errors originally reported in the aggregate total of funds from the candidate. Staff found that the \$902 dollar expenditure was disclosed on the C-4 covering the month of March 2019.

Allegation 3: Violation of RCW 42.17A.700 & .710 for failure to timely and accurately disclose reportable business ownership information on the F-1 report required to be filed as a candidate in the 2019 election.

• The complaint alleged that Mr. Martinelli failed to disclose ownership interest in "The Joint Blog", an online business and blog site, the candidate stated he owned until its sale in May 2019.

• On October 25, 2019, Mr. Martinelli submitted an amended F-1 with Supplement page to include his ownership interest in TheJointBlog.com, identifying his position as co-founder and disclosed no reportable governmental or business customers.

The complaint included additional allegations regarding possible inaccurate disclosure of reportable income on the F-1, Section 1. No evidence was found showed that Mr. Martinelli failed to include sources of income required by statute.

Anthony Martinelli was an unsuccessful candidate in 2017 and had a separate individual acting as his treasurer and filing campaign reports. During the 2019 Des Moines City Council campaign, other than approximately one month, he served as his own treasurer and did not list any other officers or committee members. It appears that his failure to disclose adequate descriptions for campaign expenditures on C-4 reports, the mistaken entry of an expenditure as candidate's personal funds, and his failure to disclose a reportable business ownership interest on his candidate F-1, was due to inexperience and general misunderstanding. Mr. Martinelli responded promptly to the complaint, worked with PDC staff to correct his reports and has not previously been found in violation of PDC laws or rules.

Based on these findings staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to timely and accurately file a small number of C-3 and C-4 reports and failure to include a reportable business ownership interest on the candidate F-1 report, does not amount to a finding of a violation warranting further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding Mr. Martinelli about the importance of the timely and accurate disclosure of all expenditure activities, specifically including any required detail and vendor breakdown as prescribed in WAC, the timely and accurate disclosure of candidate's personal funds deposited into the campaign account, and the timely and accurate disclosure of all reportable financial information on F-1 reports in any future PDC reports in accordance with the statutes and rules.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Jennifer Hansen at 1-360-586-4560, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,	Endorsed by,		
/s	/s		
Jennifer Hansen	Barbara Sandahl		
Compliance Officer	Deputy Director		
-	For Peter Lavallee		
	Executive Director		

cc: Anthony Martinelli

DISCLOSURE COMMISSION 711 CAPITOL WAY RM 206 PO BOX 40908 **OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908** (360) 753-1111

(1/15)

PDC FORM

#### PERSONAL FINANCIAL **AFFAIRS STATEMENT**

PDC OFFICE USE

100882330

Covers: 1-26-2018: To: 1-26-2019

Refer to instruction manual for detailed assistance and examples.

Incumbent elected and appointed officials -- by April 15. Candidates and others -- within two weeks of becoming a candidate or being newly appointed to a position.

**TOLL FREE 1-877-601-2828** 

DOLLAR CODE **AMOUNT** \$1 to \$4,499 В \$4,500 to \$23,999 С \$24,000 to \$47,999

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**REAL ESTATE** 

Property Sold or Interest Divested

2

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1 supplement.)

Assessed

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Name and Address of Purchaser

Nature and Amount (Use Code) of Payment or

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# Times Watchdog The Seattle Times

# Abuse allegations mount against South King County politician charged with domestic violence

Jan. 17, 2022 at 6:00 am | Updated Jan. 19, 2022 at 9:48 am



■ 1 of 2 | Kayla Wolfe, left, and Cydney Moore, former partners of Des Moines City Councilmember Anthony Martinelli, both say they were abused by Martinelli... (Ellen M. Banner / The Seattle Times)

More ✓

By Daniel Beekman y and Sydney Brownstone y

Seattle Times staff reporters

A South King County politician currently charged with domestic violence against his partner is now being accused of physical and emotional abuse by two former partners, magnifying questions about his position and about how communities should respond to abuse allegations against public figures.

Police arrested Des Moines City Councilmember Anthony Martinelli in October, and a prosecutor charged him with six misdemeanor counts of domestic violence. The case is based on a series of Facebook messages that Martinelli's current partner allegedly sent to her mother, who eventually called the police.

In the messages, which detail alleged incidents over eight months, the partner allegedly told her mother that Martinelli shoved her while she was holding their child, hit her in the face and stomach, threatened to kill her and stopped her from calling 911, and threatened to slit her throat.

She now denies being abused and said she made up or exaggerated the allegations. The Seattle Times is not naming her because she is identified as a victim in a domestic violence case.

Martinelli, 32, was elected in 2019, unseating an incumbent with a campaign that focused on increasing police funding, government transparency, homelessness assistance and mental health services.

He's pleaded not guilty to the misdemeanor charges and has denied abusing his partner, who now says she lied to her mother about the incidents. Martinelli remains on the council, although the council voted to censure him in November, with the mayor calling on him to resign.

Martinelli and his lawyer declined to be interviewed for this story and didn't respond to written questions detailing the allegations against him.

"As you are aware, there is a pending criminal matter," Martinelli's lawyer, Gina Buskirk, wrote in an email. "Mr. Martinelli has entered a plea of not guilty and he continues to maintain his innocence. He is a well respected council member who has no criminal history. We look forward to working through this matter in the court of law and will not litigate the issues in the press."

Two of Martinelli's former partners, including Burien City Councilmember Cydney Moore, have given statements to the police and The Times alleging additional instances of abuse.

Moore and Kayla Wolfe say they decided to come forward because they see some of their experiences reflected in the current charges against Martinelli and because they believe the charges show a pattern of escalating coercion and violence on Martinelli's behalf.

They also say they want to raise awareness about what domestic violence can look like. Some of the allegations that Moore and Wolfe have made involve physical abuse, but the women also have described alleged behavior that extends outside the scope of criminal statutes.

Since Martinelli's arrest, Des Moines council members and their constituents have been grappling with a thorny problem — what to do about a sitting politician accused but not convicted, and how to balance public action with the privacy of a community member allegedly subjected to abuse.

# Help for domestic-violence survivors

**If you are in immediate danger, call 911.** If you have been abused by an intimate partner, you can call the 24-hour National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233 or 800-787-3224 (TTY). A variety of agencies in the area offer assistance, including confidential shelters, counseling, child therapy and legal help. For a list of resources, visit the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence's website.

# "I know how it looks"

Martinelli has pleaded not guilty in Des Moines Municipal Court to fourth-degree assault, reckless endangerment, two counts of harassment, exposing children to

domestic violence and interfering with the reporting of domestic violence, according to the court clerk's office.

The case began when Martinelli's partner's mother called the Des Moines police, who launched an initial investigation. The mother provided copies of Facebook messages she said she copied into a Word document, in which her daughter described verbal, emotional and physical abuse by Martinelli. The case was reassigned to a Tukwila detective who completed the investigation.

The prosecutor noted that Martinelli's partner worried about reporting her abuse because he was "an elected official well known and respected in the community." They also argued that the partner was particularly susceptible to influence by Martinelli "due to feelings of helplessness and isolation she has expressed to her mother."

When Martinelli was arrested, according to a police report, he claimed his partner was "making these allegations up." His bail was set at \$15,000 and he was released on bond with no-contact orders covering his partner and their child.

The partner requested that the no-contact orders be lifted, and a judge in December ruled that Martinelli could have supervised visits with their 14-month-old child. A pretrial hearing is scheduled for Jan. 20. Des Moines prosecutor Tara Vaughn charged Martinelli, but prosecutors from SeaTac and Renton have been handling the case, due to Martinelli's position with the city, Vaughn said.

In post-arrest text messages to Moore that she shared with The Times, Martinelli called the charges "flimsy shit" and "a joke," expressing confidence they would "either be dropped or a plea will be entered for probation at most.

"Every single charge is false or entirely made up," he wrote, adding, "I am definitely getting help. But I'm not abusing anyone."

Martinelli's partner said she is currently living separately from Martinelli, under the nocontact order covering her, with their child.

In an interview with The Times, she said the Facebook messages she sent to her mother were lies and exaggerations made in a bid for attention while she struggled with postpartum depression.

Martinelli's partner said she has never been abused by him, and wants her family to be reunited.

"I know how it reads, I know how it looks," she said, adding, "No relationship's perfect, but I've never been abused, I've never been hurt, not in this relationship."

She also criticized the police, prosecutors and the Des Moines City Council's handling of the allegations. The public nature of the case — including a moment when the council briefly attached Martinelli's police report to a public agenda — have led to panic attacks, she said.

"I'm not a victim, I don't feel like a victim, but the lengths [the previous prosecution] and the city government have gone to to shame me make it seem like there's complete disregard for myself and my family," she said.

# Violence, threats

When Moore, 32, heard about the current charges against Martinelli, she says she heard echoes of her relationship with him from 2011 to 2016. Moore and Martinelli have two children together.

In a Nov. 30 interview with the police and in interviews with The Times, Moore said Martinelli regularly verbally abused her, calling her a "slut" and a "whore," sought to isolate her from friends and relatives, deleted phone and email messages, snapped her phone in half, interfered with medical appointments, and kept her from leaving their home.

Moore also said he swung his fist toward her and told her he could knock her teeth out; punched holes in walls in homes they shared; threw a phone across the room at her, leaving bruises; and hit her in the face while she was holding their children.

"It's not just physical abuse. It's controlling behavior, psychological abuse, verbal abuse," Moore said.

Some behavior, as described by Moore and Wolfe, may not fit a criminal case, or constitute physical violence. But patterns of abuse are important, said Merril Cousin, executive director at the Seattle nonprofit Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence.

"So much of what is so harmful about intimate partner abuse is not just a single act of violence. It's all these forms of power and coercion and control and humiliation and threats," Cousin said.

Emails that Moore sent during her relationship with Martinelli refer contemporaneously to some of that sort of alleged behavior. In an email to Martinelli in 2015, Moore

described Martinelli as controlling and abusive, saying he had hurt her, and fearing he might hurt her worse or even kill her.

Moore's friend, Rose Peden, said she remembered Moore telling her about the relationship. "She would talk to me about all the yelling and fighting and throwing things," said Peden, 31.

Seattle lawyer Douglas Hiatt met Martinelli, Moore and Wolfe when they worked together on the Sensible Washington campaign for legalizing marijuana, he said

Hiatt said he first heard about Martinelli's alleged abusive behavior toward Moore in 2012 when Martinelli allegedly snapped Moore's campaign phone in half because he was angry with her. Hiatt said Moore came to his office in 2016 to tell him that Martinelli had hit her in front of her children.

Moore says she never went to the police when she was in a relationship with Martinelli initially because she "didn't understand how bad it was ... I think that's probably pretty common," and later because she worried about losing her housing and because Martinelli had threatened to try to take their children away from her.

Many survivors resist reporting because they know police involvement could result in them losing their partner, their housing and other things, Cousin said. At the same time, "We need to understand that abuse is common and that false accusations are rare," she said.

Moore added: "My hope is that by putting this information out there" other people at risk will be able to avoid harm, she said, adding, "We need to end the stigma against victims. ... Abusers rely on our silence to keep getting away with it."

# Pressure, interrogations

Kayla Wolfe, 32, reconnected with Moore after Martinelli's arrest in October, and they went together to the police. Wolfe began a six-year relationship with Martinelli when they were teenagers and they stayed together until 2011, when Wolfe was 22, she said.

Despite their youth, that relationship damaged Wolfe's mental health for the decade to follow, according to Wolfe, her mother and her therapist.

It began with Martinelli's acute jealousy of other men in Wolfe's life and at her fast-food job, she said. Martinelli limited the movies or TV shows she could watch for fear that

Wolfe would want to have sex with male actors in them, Wolfe said, and isolated Wolfe from her friends.

Wolfe also alleges that Martinelli repeatedly pressured her into sex when she was religious and didn't want to participate, telling her she would have sex with him if she loved him and wasn't cheating on him. Eventually, Wolfe says, she became afraid to say no.

Wolfe also said Martinelli would interrogate her for hours about whether she had crushes on other men, including celebrities. During one of these interactions, Wolfe slapped Martinelli, after which he slapped her, she told police. Wolfe also told police that during one fight, Martinelli hit the rearview mirror of her car with his hand, which caused the windshield to shatter.

At times, Wolfe said she felt so tormented by their dynamic that she fantasized about driving off the road on the way to his home so she wouldn't have to deal with Martinelli.

"This has been a pattern of his for 15 years now," said Wolfe, who now manages an office for a financial firm. "I'm frankly very, very, very worried about his current partner, potential future partners, his children. ... He does seem to be progressing in the way he abuses people."

Wolfe's therapist of 10 years confirmed that she met Wolfe at the tail end of her relationship with Martinelli. The therapist, who asked to remain anonymous to protect her practice but received permission from Wolfe to share details of their sessions, also said that Wolfe's behavior and description of incidents in therapy "left no doubt that Kayla was a victim of physical and emotional abuse."

Wendy Haley, Wolfe's mother, said her daughter told her that Martinelli bullied her into sex the first time they had it. She also said her daughter told her at the time about Martinelli's jealousy and some of his controlling behavior.

When Martinelli ran for City Council, both Wolfe and her mother considered making some of her allegations public, they said.

"I prayed that it would eventually come to light and he would pay for what he has done," Haley said. "And maybe it would change him in a way that he can have better relationships."

# **Political response**

Des Moines Mayor Matt Pina learned about Martinelli's arrest almost immediately and issued a statement urging Martinelli to resign.

"As a council, we do not condone this type of behavior and I am deeply saddened that he has tarnished the office in such a way," Pina said in that statement.

The council voted 5-1 on Nov. 18 to censure Martinelli, for acting in a manner unbecoming of a council member, bringing disrepute to the council and for the commission of an unlawful act, and removed him from committee assignments. In Des Moines, only voters can remove a council member from office, Pina said.

Council members cited the city's "zero tolerance" stance on domestic violence and mentioned that Martinelli had in 2020 supported the creation of a new crime in Des Moines of "exposing children to domestic violence."

Leading up to the censure vote, council members wrestled with how to handle Martinelli's plea of not guilty, and with how to balance their responsibilities — to the public versus Martinelli's partner, who called on them to leave her family alone. They didn't know about Moore and Wolfe's allegations at the time.

"Innocent until proven guilty refers purely to a very limited number of criminal charges," Councilmember Traci Buxton said before voting to censure Martinelli, explaining her reasoning regarding due process considerations.

Cousin, the executive director at the Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence, was heartened to see the council take the allegations seriously, though she questioned the wisdom of a rigid "zero tolerance" approach toward abuse. Each situation is unique and should be treated as such, with the aim to increase safety and accountability rather than to punish, she said.

Pina, whose term expired last month, said he never doubted the need to censure Martinelli over what he described as a shocking "distraction for the entire community."

"This is not the type of thing you ignore," he said.

But the then-mayor, who didn't seek reelection last year, did struggle with the privacy question, including the decision to link to Martinelli's police report from the council's agenda, he said. In a recorded statement played during the public comment part of the council meeting, Martinelli's partner accused the council of spreading lies and shaming her.

Cousin said that to some extent the council was "choosing between bad options" — ignoring the matter or outing an alleged survivor.

The council ultimately voted to take down the police report after approving Martinelli's censure. "You're between a rock and a hard place," Pina said. "You're trying to reconcile city business and the rights of the victim."

#### **Help for domestic-violence survivors**

**If you are in immediate danger, call 911.** If you have been abused by an intimate partner, you can call the 24-hour National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233 or 800-787-3224 (TTY). A variety of agencies in the area offer assistance, including confidential shelters, counseling, child therapy and legal help. For a list of resources, visit the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence's website.

This coverage is partially underwritten by Microsoft Philanthropies. The Seattle Times maintains editorial control over this and all its coverage.

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**Sydney Brownstone:** 206-464-3225 or sbrownstone@seattletimes.com; on Twitter: @sydbrownstone.

# The Seattle Times

# Local Politics The Seattle Times

# Des Moines council member accused of domestic violence resigns

Jan. 22, 2022 at 8:21 am | Updated Jan. 24, 2022 at 8:33 am



Des Moines City Councilmember Anthony Martinelli announced Friday night in a Facebook post that he would step down. The announcement follows domestic... (Courtesy city of Des Moines) **More**  $\checkmark$ 



By Sydney Brownstone Seattle Times staff reporter

Anthony Martinelli, the 32-year-old Des Moines City Council member charged with domestic violence last year against his current partner and subsequently accused of physical and emotional abuse by two former partners, announced Friday night in Facebook posts that he would step down.

"After considerable thought I have decided to resign from my position as a member of the Des Moines City Council," Martinelli wrote on the private Facebook pages of two groups about Des Moines. "Though I have maintained my innocence, and continue to do so, clearly my personal life has become a distraction to the city, and remaining on the council would be selfish."

Des Moines Mayor Matt Mahoney wrote to
Martinelli on Friday night to accept his
resignation and said he would notify the city
clerk and begin the reappointment process. The
city clerk will start notifying the public about the
position early in the coming week, Mahoney said Saturday, and over two council
meetings legislators will interview candidates and vote on a replacement for Martinelli's
position. The Des Moines city attorney considered Martinelli's Facebook posts a
sufficient form of resignation, Mahoney said.

"Situations like this are difficult. It's been a distraction from the good work we're trying to do," Mahoney said. "I applaud this decision because it's good for the victims, the city and himself. We can start to move forward in a productive manner onto the next changes that face the city."

Martinelli didn't return a request for comment Friday night. In email Saturday, his lawyer, Gina Buskirk, reiterated that Martinelli decided to resign based on the allegations distracting the council and said the public nature of the case had "taken a toll."

Martinelli, who has pleaded not guilty to six counts of misdemeanor domestic violence, reached a deal with the prosecution and judge Thursday morning to enter a pretrial diversion program that would allow for the possibility of his criminal charges to be dismissed after two years. Later that day, in a Facebook post to the same Des Moines politics group, Martinelli said he would not resign, adding that he had no comment on The Seattle Times' reporting on the subsequent allegations from two former partners.

Multiple Democratic Party and labor groups nevertheless joined in calls this week for Martinelli, who has previously run with Democratic support, to step down. Some council colleagues had urged Martinelli to resign soon after his arrest, and the council voted last fall to censure him and strip him of his committee assignments.

"Even if charges against him are being dropped as a part of a plea deal, our elected officials are held to a higher standard of public trust, and this sort of thing is completely unacceptable," Tina Podlodowski, chair of the Washington State Democratic Party, said Thursday in a statement responding to news of Martinelli's deal with the prosecution.

In his Facebook comment Friday night, Martinelli called on his council colleagues to choose a replacement for his seat that "can help alter the fact that currently there is just one woman on the entire council, and there are zero minority members."

As part of the deal, Martinelli must be supervised by the Des Moines prosecutor's office for three years, participate in a form of domestic violence therapy and attend classes on family conflict, in addition to having no firearms, criminal law violations or contact with his partner.

The misdemeanor domestic violence charges in the case against Martinelli stem from a series of Facebook messages that Martinelli's current partner allegedly sent over a period of eight months to her mother, who eventually called the police. Martinelli's partner allegedly described him shoving her while she was holding their child, hitting her in the face and stomach, stopping her from calling 911 and threatening to slit her throat.

His partner, whom The Seattle Times is not naming because she is identified as a victim in a domestic violence case, denies that Martinelli abused her.

Following Martinelli's arrest, two of his former partners, including Burien City Councilmember Cydney Moore, described additional allegations of abuse from Martinelli to police and to The Seattle Times in a story published Monday. Moore and Kayla Wolfe said they believed their allegations, taken together with the recent charges, indicated a pattern of escalating coercion and violence.

Martinelli and his lawyer, Buskirk, declined to be interviewed for Monday's story about the allegations.

In her email Saturday, Buskirk said Martinelli and his partner have been subjected to intense scrutiny.

"His partner's pleas for privacy have been repeatedly disregarded. Proceeding to trial in these matters would have only intensified the intrusion," the lawyer wrote, adding, "Under the terms of this resolution, Mr. Martinelli is not admitting guilt but does agree to abide by specific conditions."

In an emailed statement Saturday, Moore said: "I hope this situation has created a conversation not just about the incidents in this case, but about how we approach domestic violence and abuse overall. I believe we must continue to educate on what DV looks like and how damaging it can be, and we need to make it easier for victims to come forward and access the support they need."

Both Moore and Wolfe said they were grateful to Des Moines residents, leaders and organizations that called for Martinelli's resignation.

"I am beyond relieved at Mr. Martinelli's announcement tonight to resign," Wolfe said by email Saturday. "This decision is best for the city and for his family. I hope that he continues to focus on bettering himself for the sake of his family and his community."

Staff reporter Daniel Beekman (	contributed to	this	report.
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**Sydney Brownstone:** 206-464-3225 or sbrownstone@seattletimes.com; on Twitter: @sydbrownstone.

7/11/22, 4:38 PM public

# Financial Affairs Disclosure - Washington State Public Disclosure Commission

Martinelli Anthony J

Covering January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

#### Offices:

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER - CITY OF DES MOINES

\* Unless otherwise indicated, all reported information pertains to Martinelli Anthony J.

Submitted date: 6/17/2021 Certified by: Anthony Martinelli

Email: Amartinelli@desmoineswa.gov

SUBMISSION HISTORY

#### Income

Reportable income, including wages, tips, sales commissions, stock options, non-investment retirement income and miscellaneous income such as legal judgments, rental property income, etc.:

#### Self

PO Box 98007

Des Moines, WA 98198

**Earned by:** MARTINELLI ANTHONY J **Income:** \$30,000.00 to \$59,999.00

Type: Site owner and author

#### **Assets**

Financial assets and interest income are reported from bank accounts, insurance policies, broker-directed investment accounts, self-directed investment accounts and other financial assets:

There are no reportable financial assets, including bank accounts, insurance policies, broker or self-directed investment accounts or any other financial assets.

7/11/22, 4:38 PM public

## Real estate

Real estate owned in the state of Washington:

There is no real estate owned in Washington State.

## **Debt**

There is no debt owed in excess of \$2,400.

## **Business associations**

There is no business ownership, nor is there involvement as an officer, director or general partner.

# Lobbying activity

Compensation received for lobbying activities:

No qualifying lobbying activity was done.

#### **Gifts**

Gifts of food and beverages worth more than \$50, and travel or seminar expenses made by any outside government agency:

There were no gifts exceeding \$50; nor were there any payments for travel or seminars.

7/11/22, 4:23 PM public

# Financial Affairs Disclosure - Washington State Public Disclosure Commission

Martinelli Anthony J

Covering January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

#### **Candidacies:**

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER - CITY OF DES MOINES - 2019 General

\* Unless otherwise indicated, all reported information pertains to Martinelli Anthony J.

Submitted date: 7/2/2020

Certified by: Anthony

Martinelli

Email:

anthonym1230@gmail.com

SUBMISSION HISTORY

#### Income

Reportable income, including wages, tips, sales commissions, stock options, non-investment retirement income and miscellaneous income such as legal judgments, rental property income, etc.:

#### Self

PO Box 98007

Des Moines, WA 98198

**Earned by:** MARTINELLI ANTHONY J **Income:** \$30,000.00 to \$59,999.00

**Type:** Site owner and author

#### **Assets**

Financial assets and interest income are reported from bank accounts, insurance policies, broker-directed investment accounts, self-directed investment accounts and other financial assets:

There are no reportable financial assets, including bank accounts, insurance policies, broker or self-directed investment accounts or any other financial assets.

7/11/22, 4:23 PM public

## Real estate

Real estate owned in the state of Washington:

There is no real estate owned in Washington State.

## **Debt**

There is no debt owed in excess of \$2,400.

## **Business associations**

There is no business ownership, nor is there involvement as an officer, director or general partner.

# Lobbying activity

Compensation received for lobbying activities:

No qualifying lobbying activity was done.



Q Search

▲ DISCLAIMER: The available information is updated automatically on a schedule. Please refer to the update date and time located at the bottom of this page. Changes that impact estimated release dates can occur at any time. Those changes may include and are not limited to: additional charges, sentence adjustments and disciplinary modifications. Inmates in custody that do not have an estimated release date are usually awaiting court action. Some of these inmates may be eligible to post bail in order to be released from jail.

❶ The VINE Direct Link Buttons connect to the VINE network's database and allows the user to sign up for notifications to be sent when the specific inmate is released. The VINE Link is a service provided for victims of crime by Appriss Incorporated.

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# Person Refresh

Name Number: **Last Name:** 99606 **MARTINELLI** First Name: Middle Name: **ANTHONY JERALD** 

Vine LINK:

**♥** VINE LINK

# **Current Booking**

# Booking #21-10883

Date Booked: **Date Released:** 

Scheduled Release Date:

10/22/2021 02:50 PM

To be determined

#### Offenses

Agency:

Agency: Offense:

**DES MOINES** ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE/DV/FTA

Cause Number: Offense Status: 1A0709048 **ARRAIGNMENT** Bond: **Bond Amount:** 

NO BAIL \$0.00

**DES MOINES RECKLESS ENDANGER 2ND/FTA** 

Cause Number: Offense Status: 1A0709048 ARRAIGNMENT Bond: **Bond Amount:** 

BAIL INCLUDED IN OTHER CHARGE

\$0.00

Offense:

In SCORE Custody

Agency: Offense: **DES MOINES RECKLESS ENDANGER 2ND/FTA** Cause Number: Offense Status: 1A0709048 **ARRAIGNMENT** Bond: **Bond Amount:** BAIL INCLUDED IN OTHER CHARGE \$0.00 Offense: Agency: **DES MOINES** HARASSMENT/DV/FTA Cause Number: Offense Status: 1A0709049 **ARRAIGNMENT** Bond: **Bond Amount:** NO BAIL \$0.00 Offense: Agency: **DES MOINES** INTERFERING W/ REPORT DV/FTA Cause Number: Offense Status: 1A0709049 **ARRAIGNMENT** Bond: **Bond Amount:** BAIL INCLUDED IN OTHER CHARGE \$0.00 Offense: Agency: **DES MOINES** HARASSMENT/DV/FTA Cause Number: Offense Status: 1A0709050 **ARRAIGNMENT** Bond: **Bond Amount:** \$0.00 NO BAIL

# **Booking List**

Booking Number:

21-10883

Date Booked:

10/22/2021 02:50 PM

Date Released:

In SCORE Custody

Last Updated: 10/23/2021 02:21 PM Viewed: 10/23/2021 02:22 PM

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