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

In Re: The Matter of Enforcement Action  
Against:

MATTHEW BISHOP,  
  
Respondent.

PDC CASE NO. 39041

ORDER ON PUBLIC  
DISCLOSURE COMMISSION  
STAFF'S REQUEST FOR  
RECONSIDERATION

This matter was heard by the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission (Commission) on September 26, 2019, at the Public Disclosure Commission office, 711 Capitol Way, Room 206, Olympia, Washington. Public Disclosure Commission Staff requested reconsideration of the Presiding Officer's Order issued on September 24, 2018, following a Brief Enforcement Hearing (Brief Adjudicative Proceeding) in this matter. The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW, and Chapter 390-37 WAC.

Commissioners present were Anne Levinson, Commission Chair (presiding); David Ammons, Commission Vice-Chair; and Commissioners William Downing and Russell Lehman. Also present were Assistant Attorney General John S. Meader representing the Commission, Assistant Attorney General Chad Standifer representing PDC Staff, and Fox Blackhorn-Delph, PDC Compliance Coordinator. The Respondent was provided notice of the hearing but did not appear. The proceeding was open to the public and recorded.

1 The Commissioners had before them the following materials:

- 2 1. Case memorandum dated September 16, 2019, prepared by Fox Blackhorn-Delph,
- 3 PDC Compliance Coordinator;
- 4 2. Correspondence with the Secretary of State's Election Division, dated September 16,
- 5 2019;
- 6 3. Candidate C-1/F-1 Warning Letter, dated July 16, 2018;
- 7 4. Brief Hearing Notice, dated August 16, 2018;
- 8 5. Final Order imposing fine, dated October 5, 2018;
- 9 6. Referral to AllianceOne for collection, dated May 1, 2019;
- 10 7. Reconsideration hearing notice, dated September 16, 2019; and
- 11 8. AllianceOne penalty account details, dated September 16, 2019.

### 12 13 **I. FINDINGS OF FACT**

14 The matter involved PDC Staff's request that the Commission vacate a Final Order issued  
15 on October 5, 2018, resulting from a September 24, 2018, Brief Adjudicative Proceeding  
16 regarding Matthew Bishop (Respondent), a candidate for State Senator for Washington State  
17 Legislative District 08. The Presiding Officer at the Brief Adjudicative Proceeding found Mr.  
18 Bishop in violation of RCW 42.17A.205 for failing to file a Candidate Registration (C-1) and  
19 RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1) certifying  
20 financial activities for twelve calendar months prior to becoming a candidate, and imposed a  
21 civil penalty of \$500. Both the C-1 and F-1 were due within two weeks of becoming a candidate,  
22 or no later than June 1, 2018. The basis of the PDC Staff's Request for Reconsideration was that  
23 the PDC Staff later learned that the Respondent was no longer a candidate for office at the time  
24 of the September 24, 2018, Brief Adjudicative Proceeding.

25 Mr. Bishop filed a declaration of candidacy with the Benton County Auditor's office on  
26

1 May 14, 2018. His name and contact information was forwarded by the Washington Secretary  
2 of State's Office to the Public Disclosure Commission, along with all other candidates who had  
3 declared candidacy. Mr. Bishop's physical address was listed as 2105 N. Steptoe St. #141,  
4 Kennewick, WA 99336, and his email address as [bishopmj.tc@gmail.com](mailto:bishopmj.tc@gmail.com).

5 Along with his filing for candidacy, Mr. Bishop submitted a check to the Benton County  
6 Auditor's Office to pay the filing fee to run for the office of State Senator but, due to issues with  
7 payment, on June 18, 2018, the Benton County election official determined that the filing fee  
8 had not been paid. Mr. Bishop ceased to be a candidate at that time for election year 2018, and  
9 his name was not placed on either the Primary or General Election ballots.

10 On July 16, 2018, PDC staff sent a warning letter to Mr. Bishop at 2105 N. Steptoe St.  
11 #141, Kennewick, WA, 99336, by U.S. Mail concerning the failure to file the C-1 and F-1  
12 reports.

13 On August 16, 2018, PDC Staff sent a hearing notice to Mr. Bishop at 2105 N. Steptoe  
14 St. #141, Kennewick, WA 99336, and to [bishopmj.tc@gmail.com](mailto:bishopmj.tc@gmail.com), for a Brief Adjudicative  
15 Proceeding, to be held on September 24, 2018.

16 On September 24, 2018, a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding was held in which the Presiding  
17 Officer found Mr. Bishop in violation of RCW 42.17A.205 for failing to file the C-1 report and  
18 RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file the F-1 report. Mr. Bishop did not respond to the warning  
19 letters or the hearing notice and neither mailing was returned as undeliverable. Mr. Bishop did  
20 not appear at the hearing. He was assessed a \$500 penalty in accordance with WAC 390-37-  
21 143, the Commission's penalty schedule. As noted below, the Respondent had one prior  
22 violation at the time of the September 24, 2018 hearing but the Order issued in that case was not  
23 properly entered into the filing history for the Respondent, so this case was presented to the  
24 Presiding Officer as a first violation, and the penalty set on that basis.

25 On October 5, 2018, PDC Staff sent the Initial Order to Mr. Bishop at 2105 N. Steptoe  
26 St. #141, Kennewick, WA, 99336, and to [bishopmj.tc@gmail.com](mailto:bishopmj.tc@gmail.com). The Initial Order became  
the Final Order on October 26, 2018, as no timely request for review was received. The Final  
Order became binding on November 5, 2018. It was referred to a collection agency for

1 collections on May 1, 2019.

2 On September 13, 2019, PDC Staff, while investigating a new complaint regarding Mr.  
3 Bishop's current candidacy and an alleged failure to file the required F-1 (PDC Case 54979),  
4 discovered Mr. Bishop's name did not appear in the 2018 election results for Benton County.  
5 On September 16, 2019, the Washington Secretary of State confirmed to the Staff that Mr.  
6 Bishop did not appear on the 2018 Benton County ballots due to an unpaid filing fee. On  
7 September 16, 2019, PDC Staff sent a hearing notice, by both U.S. Mail and email, to Mr. Bishop  
8 for a Reconsideration Hearing to be held on September 26, 2019.

9 Mr. Bishop had also been candidate in 2017 for election to the office of School Director  
10 for Richland School District 400. In PDC Case 22782, he was found to have violated the same  
11 laws for failing to file the required C-1 and F-1 reports for that candidacy. A \$500 civil penalty  
12 was imposed. That penalty went unpaid and was referred to collections on June 12,  
13 2018. Neither the missing C-1 nor F-1 at issue was filed and the penalty remains unpaid.  
14 As of the date of the Request for Reconsideration Hearing, Mr. Bishop had not contacted PDC  
15 Staff or the collections agency, the 2018 C-1 and F-1 reports had not been filed, and the \$500  
16 civil penalty and collection fees for that case remained unpaid.

## 17 II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

18 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to Chapter  
19 42.17A RCW, the State campaign finance and disclosure law; Chapter 34.05 RCW, the  
20 Administrative procedure Act; and Title 390 WAC.

21 2. The Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.205 for failing to file the required C-1,  
22 and RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file the required F-1 certifying financial activity for  
23 the twelve months prior to becoming a candidate, both due no later than June 1, 2018.

24 3. The Respondent filed as a candidate for State Senator for Legislative District 08  
25 in Benton County and submitted a check for his candidate fees. As a result, his name  
26 was forwarded to the Secretary of State's Office and to the PDC. The PDC pursued

1 enforcement against him when he failed to file his C-1 and F-1 reports as required by  
2 law. The Respondent failed to respond to communications by U.S. Mail or email to the  
3 Respondent's addresses of record or appear at the hearing.

4 4. In each of the Respondent's three candidacies to date the reports required by  
5 law have not been filed and the Respondent has failed to communicate with the PDC  
6 Staff to address the lack of compliance.

7 5. The civil penalty and costs associated with the enforcement in this matter are  
8 due and payable regardless of whether the Respondent's name was ultimately removed  
9 from the Benton County ballot due to non-payment of the candidate filing fee.

### 11 III. ORDER

12 Because the Respondent has failed to communicate with the PDC at any time about this  
13 matter, has not filed his C-1 and F-1 reports, and incurred penalties and costs as a result of his  
14 candidacy, PDC Staff's Request for Reconsideration is DENIED. This Amended Order will be  
15 the Final Order. The Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law entered on October 5, 2018, are  
16 affirmed. The \$500 civil penalty assessed in the October 5, 2018 remains due and Respondent  
17 is responsible for any collection costs accrued.

18  
19 SO ORDERED this 30th day of September, 2019.

20 WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC  
21 DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

22 FOR THE COMMISSION:

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25 \_\_\_\_\_  
26 Anne Levinson  
Chair, Public Disclosure Commission

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*This order sent by email to:*

Matthew Bishop  
Bishopmj.tc@gmail.com

Fox Blackhorn-Delph,  
PDC Compliance Coordinator  
[Fox.Blackhorn@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:Fox.Blackhorn@pdc.wa.gov)

Chad Standifer, Assistant Attorney General  
([ChadS@atg.wa.gov](mailto:ChadS@atg.wa.gov))

I, _____, certify that I emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at his respective email address.	
_____	_____
Signed	Date