

State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A

PDC Case #151260

MARTIN MCELLIOTT,

Respondent.

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

Pursuant to the brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) notice sent to Martin McElliott on January 2, 2025, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on January 30, 2025, remotely from Olympia, WA by live audio and online transmission, to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.235 and .240 by failing to file or timely file, as a candidate for the 2023 election cycle, a mandatory post-primary election C-4 report. The C-4 report, disclosing campaign expenditures, was due to be filed not later than September 11, 2023.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW, 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commission Chair Allen Hayward was the Presiding Officer. The Commission staff was represented by Compliance Officers Jennifer Hansen, Alice Fiman, and Tabitha Townsend. 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 a candidate for Port Commissioner of Port of Olympia.
- 2. As a candidate for election, the Respondent was required to file a post-primary election C-4 report by September 11, 2023.
- 3. The Respondent did not file the C-4 report by the date of the enforcement hearing.
- 4. The Respondent has no prior violations.

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.235 and .240 by failing to file the post-primary election C-4 report by September 11, 2023.

ORDER

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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of \$150, in accordance with the C-4 penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143.

It is further ordered that the Respondent:

- 1. Pay the \$150 civil penalty within 30 days of the date of this Order.
- 2. File the missing C-4 report within 30 days of the date of this Order.

In the event the Respondent fails to pay the \$150 civil penalty within 30 days of the date of the Order, PDC staff is directed to refer the matter to collections or to seek a court order compelling compliance with this Order.

Any allegations regarding reporting by the Respondent for the 2023 campaign that are not otherwise addressed here are hereby dismissed.

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

Entered this 27th day of February, 2025.

Public Disclosure Commission

<u>Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee</u> Peter Frey Lavallee Executive Director

> I, Jennifer Hansen, certify that I mailed and emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their respective address postage pre-paid, and by email on the date stated herein.

Electronically Signed Jennifer Hansen

2/27/2025 Date

Signed

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 orally or in writing, stating the reason for review, and identifying what alleged errors are contained in the initial order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(1). Staff may ask for written confirmation of oral requests for review.
- REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE <u>RECEIVED</u> AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE WITHIN <u>TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS</u> AFTER THE POSTMARK DATE OF THIS INITIAL ORDER. Written requests for review should be delivered or mailed to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission, 711 Capitol Way, Room 206, Box 40908, Olympia, WA 98504-0908.

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.

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(5).

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL A FINAL ORDER TO SUPERIOR COURT, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW PROVISIONS OF RCW 34.05.552.