



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

And delivered electronically to jamessorensen@comcast.net.

March 14, 2025

Subject: PDC Order, Case 158242

Dear James Sorenson,

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

At the February 13, 2025, Brief Enforcement Hearing, the Presiding Officer assessed a total civil penalty of \$150 in accordance with WAC 390-37-143.

The \$150 penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of the Order. Your due date for payment is **April 14, 2025**. See the options below for how to pay online, by mail, or in-person.

Electronic Payment Option

Please be aware, processing fees may apply. To start the process for making an online payment, email the following information to payments@pdc.wa.gov (see below):

- The PDC Case Number
- The Respondent's Name

Once the case number and respondent name are received, an email with the payment link and further instructions about how to make a payment will be provided.

- You must send the payment no later than **April 14, 2025**.

Mail or In-Person Payment Option

To pay by check or money order, make the draft payable to “Washington State Treasurer,” write your PDC Case Number in the Memo field, and mail or deliver the payment to one of the addresses shown below:

Regular mail:

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

Overnight mail or in-person delivery:

Public Disclosure Commission
711 Capitol Way S, STE 206
Olympia, WA 98501-1267

It is also ordered that you file the missing C-4 within 30 days of this order, which is **April 14, 2025**. However, you have already filed the missing report.

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

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed by Jordan Campbell

Jordan Campbell
Compliance Coordinator

Enclosure: Final Order



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A

PDC Case 158242

James Sorenson,

Respondent.

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

Pursuant to the brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) notice sent to **James Sorenson** on **January 10, 2025**, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on February 13, 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 2024 election cycle, a mandatory post-general election C-4 report. The C-4 report, disclosing campaign expenditures, was due to be filed not later than December 10, 2024.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW, 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commission Chair J. Leach was the Presiding Officer. The Commission staff was represented by Compliance Coordinators, Colin Peebles and Jordan Campbell. 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 **County Commissioner** of **Grays Harbor County**.
2. As a candidate for election, the Respondent was required to file a post-general election C-4 report by December 10, 2024.
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-general election C-4 report by December 10, 2024.

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 2024 campaign that are not otherwise addressed here are hereby dismissed.

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

Entered this 14th day of March, 2025.

Public Disclosure Commission

Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee

Peter Frey Lavallee

Executive Director

I, Jordan Campbell, certify that I emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent on the date stated herein.

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| <u>Electronically Signed by Jordan Campbell</u> | <u>March 14, 2025</u> |
| 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 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 RECEIVED AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE WITHIN TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS 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.