

# 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

Elizabeth Crouse 4837 Baltimore Ave #2F Philadelphia PA 19143

January 13, 2025

And delivered electronically to crouseem1@gmail.com

Subject: PDC Order, Case 162103

Dear Elizabeth Crouse,

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

At the December 19, 2024 Brief Enforcement hearing, the Presiding Officer assessed a total civil penalty of \$250, of which \$0 is suspended, in accordance with WAC 390-37-143. The \$250 non-suspended penalty is payable within 30 days of the date of this Order, which is **February 12, 2025**.

#### **Online Payment Option:**

To make an online payment email payments@pdc.wa.gov.

A payment link will be sent to you, in which you will need to provide the following information: (1) Case Number; and (2) Respondent Name. Please note Processing fees may apply.

To mail a check or money order, make it payable to the "Washington State Treasurer" and be sure to include the PDC Case Number 162103 in the memorandum field.

#### For Regular Mail:

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

#### For 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 L-2 report(s) within 30 days of this order, which is February 12, 2025.

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

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed by Tabitha Townsend

PDC Staff

Enclosure: Initial Order



# 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

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A PDC Case 162103

Elizabeth Crouse, Findings of Fact,

Respondent. Conclusions of Law, and

Order Imposing Fine

Pursuant to the brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) notice sent to Elizabeth Crouse on November 12, 2024, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on December 19, 2024, remotely from Olympia, WA by live audio and online transmission, to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.615 by failing to file or timely file Monthly Lobbyist Expense Reports (L-2 Reports) as a lobbyist for the 2023 calendar year. The L-2 reports were due to be filed by the 15th day of each month, disclosing lobbying activities in the previous calendar month.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW and 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commission Chair Allen Hayward was the Presiding Officer. Commission staff was represented by Compliance Officers Casey Gayman and Tabitha Townsend. The Respondent participated in the hearing remotely and/or submitted written material.

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

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Respondent was a registered lobbyist in the State of Washington during calendar year 2023.
- 2. As a registered lobbyist, the Respondent was required to file L-2 reports by the 15th day of each month, disclosing compensation and lobbying expenses in the prior calendar month, such as travel, entertainment, contributions, advertising, and other lobbying expenses.
- 3. The Respondent did not file the L-2 report(s) for January and April 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.615 by failing to file the L-2 reports by the 15th day of the month as required.

## **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 L-2 reports within 30 days of the date of this Order and is assessed a total civil penalty of \$250, in accordance with the L-2 penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143.
- 2. 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 L-2 reports shall be due immediately.

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

Entered this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025

**Public Disclosure Commission** 

Electronically signed by Peter Frey Lavallee Peter Frey Lavallee **Executive Director** 

I, Tabitha Townsend, certify that I emailed and mailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their respective addresses of record on the date stated herein.

Electronically Signed Tabitha Townsend Signed

January 13, 2025

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 <a href="mailto:pdc.wa.gov">pdc.wa.gov</a>
- REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE <u>RECEIVED</u> BY THE COMMISSION WITHIN <u>TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS</u> AFTER THE DATE 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.

#### 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.