

## State of Washington PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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March 18, 2025

Delivered electronically to stellarmeadowsfarms@gmail.com.

Subject: PDC Case 158368 regarding Gerald Ashby

Gerald Ashby,

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) completed its review of the complaint filed by Conner Edwards on August 19, 2024. The complaint alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 for failure to timely and accurately file expenditure reports.

## Applicable Laws & Rules

- RCW 42.17A.235 describes the required filing deadlines for disclosure of campaign finance activities including monetary contributions.
- RCW 42.17A.240 describes the required contents of campaign finance reports filed with the Public Disclosure Commission.

## Background & Findings

- Gerald Ashby was a candidate for School Director for Deer Park School District filing under the Full Reporting option for the 2023 election.
- The complaint alleged negative cash on hand balance.
- The Respondent notified staff the negative balance was caused by the campaign being self-funded. The monetary expenditures reported by the campaign were actually in-kind contributions from the candidate.
- The Respondent received a previous warning for filing 2023 campaign reports late.

• The PDC strongly encourages the Respondent to amend the report to accurately disclose the cash on hand balance, and to follow PDC requirements in the future to avoid future enforcement.

## Summary and Resolution

Having reviewed the complaint and the supporting evidence, PDC staff has determined that the candidate appears to have violated RCW 42.17A. Based on the guidance provided to PDC staff by the Commission at its January 23, 2025, meeting, this matter is being dismissed in accordance with <u>RCW 42.17A.755(1)</u> and <u>WAC 390-37-060(1)(d)</u> due to current caseloads.

Any allegations regarding reporting by you for the 2024 campaign that are not otherwise addressed are also hereby dismissed.

You are required to comply with all PDC requirements in the future. Failure to do so could lead to further enforcement action.

If you have questions, you may contact Colin Peeples at 1-360-753-1111, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely, Endorsed by,

Electronically signed by Colin Peeples Electronically signed by Kim Bradford

Colin Peeples Kim Bradford
Compliance Coordinator Deputy Director

For Peter Frey Lavallee Executive Director

cc: Conner Edwards