

# 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

TO:

**Commission Members** 

FROM:

Kurt Young, Compliance Officer

DATE:

September 17, 2013

RE:

Request for Review from Taylor Taranto: PDC Case No. 13-151

#### **Agenda Item**

Taylor Taranto is seeking a review by the Commission of an initial order entered in a Brief Enforcement Hearing in PDC Case No. 13-151. The review is scheduled for the September 26, 2013, Commission meeting.

#### **Background**

Mr. Taranto is a first-time candidate seeking the office of School Director in the Pasco School District. Mr. Taranto was required to file a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) and a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) within two weeks of declaring his candidacy in 2013, or no later than May 31, 2013.

Mr. Taranto filed the missing C-1 and F-1 reports on July 22, 2013. A Brief Enforcement Hearing was held on August 1, 2013, at which the Presiding Officer found Mr. Taranto committed violations of RCW 42.17A.205 and .700 by failing to timely file a C-1 report and F-1 report within two weeks of declaring his candidacy in 2013. Mr. Taranto was assessed a civil penalty of \$200 in accordance with the penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-165, that is payable within 30 days of the date of the order. The initial Order was entered August 15, 2013.

#### **Request for Review**

On September 5, 2013, Mr. Taranto sent a letter to the PDC asking for a review of the Order he recently received, including the \$200 fine imposed at the hearing. He included a receipt from the Pasco Post Office dated July 17, 2013, which he provided as evidence that he filed the missing C-1 and F-1 reports on that date. The receipt indicated that \$.66 in postage had been purchased on July 17, 2013. He stated that he postmarked the C-1 and F-1 reports on the same date.

#### **Staff Response**

The missing C-1 and F-1 were received by PDC from Mr. Taranto containing a July 22, 2013 postmark date.

Taylor Taranto Request for Review PDC Case No. 13-151 Page 2

### Attachments:

- Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Imposing Fine (PDC Case No. 13-151)
- September 5, 2013 letter from Mr. Taranto.



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August 15, 2013

Taylor Taranto 1311 North Beech Avenue Pasco WA 99301

Subject: PDC Case No. 13-151

Dear Mr. Taranto:

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

The Presiding Officer assessed a civil penalty of \$200 in accordance with the penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-165. Payment is due within 30 days and your check or money order should be payable to the **WA State Treasurer**. Please mail the penalty payment to the Public Disclosure Commission. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

If you have questions, please contact me at (360) 664-8854; toll free at (877) 601-2828 or by email at kurt.young@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Kurt Young U

Compliance Officer

Enclosure



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

Taylor Taranto 1311 North Beech Avenue Pasco WA 99301

In Re Compliance with RCW 42.17A

Taylor Taranto

Respondent.

PDC Case No. 13-151

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

A brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) was held August 1, 2013, in Room 206, Evergreen Plaza Building, 711 Capitol Way, Olympia, Washington to consider whether the Respondent violated: (1) RCW 42.17A.205 by failing to timely file the Candidate Registration (C-1 report), which was due to be filed within two weeks of the Respondent filing a declaration of candidacy; and (2) RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) covering the 12 months preceding the date the Respondent became a candidate for election in 2013.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. A brief enforcement hearing notice was sent to Taylor Taranto on July 18, 2013. Commission Chair Amit Ranade was the Presiding Officer. The Commission staff was represented by Kurt Young, Compliance Officer. The Respondent did not participate at 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 School Director in the Pasco School District in 2013
- 2. As a candidate, the Respondent was required to file an F-1 report and C-1 report within two weeks of the date the Respondent filed a declaration of candidacy, or no later than May 31, 2013.
- 3. The Respondent filed the missing C-1 and F-1 reports on July 22, 2013, prior to the date of the hearing.
- 4. The Respondent has no prior violations.

Finding, Conclusions & Order Taylor Taranto PDC Case No. 13-151 Page - 2 –

#### **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.205 by failing to timely file the C-1 report, and RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file F-1 report, due no later than May 31, 2013.

#### **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 \$200 in accordance with the penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-165, that is payable within 30 days of the date of this order.

This is an Initial Order of the Public Disclosure Commission.

Entered this 15 day of August, 2013.

**Public Disclosure Commission** 

Andrea McNamara Doyle Executive Director

Enclosure: Information about Appeal Rights

I, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I mailed a copy of this order to the Respondent(s) at his/her/its respective address, postage pre-paid, on the date stated herein.

Signed

Date

#### RECEIVED

SEP - 5 2013

Taylor F. Taranto 1311 N Beech Ave Pasco, WA 99301 August 25, 2013

**Public Disclosure Commission** 

#### To Whom It May Concern:

I am requesting reconsideration of ruling concerning a fine imposed by commission order on case no. 13-151 of \$200.

I have enclosed two pages citing 1) an official PDC letter addressed to myself, stating "Mailed reports are considered filed as of the date they are postmarked," Also similarly printed above, "IN ORDER TO AVOID ENFORCEMENT ACTION AND A POSSIBLE MONETARY PENALTY, you must deliver the missing C-1 and F-1 reports to our office by Wednesday, July 17th, 2013," hereunder, "If not received by July 17th, we may schedule a hearing that could result in a monetary penalty."

On or about July 1<sup>st</sup> I used my county auditor's office to make contact with the PDC to see if submitting by online only was sufficient. I called a second time the week after to see if PDC had received my mailed copy, that I had reason to believe misplaced it instead of mailing it. Furthermore, as paperwork was filed/postmarked on the 17th, as shown on 2) enclosed copy of receipt; I therefore am seeking reconsideration. Had the PDC clerk properly filed forms internally, prior to the decision being made, there would have been substantial argument to dismiss unless adjudicators were not aware of paperwork since enclosed. This seems to me to be an internal incompetency, where a Commission can raise money by partially enforcing rules and self-seeking. I didn't receive or read of or hear about a court hearing. I wasn't properly subpoenaed or confirmed to attend the hearing where I was penalized without representation. I'm calling for fair and open governing. Please reconsider.

Thank you.

Sincerely.

Taylor F Taranto

PASCO MPO PASCO, Washington 993019998 5480520302 -0093 (000)000-0000

07/17/2013

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(Forever) Emancipation Proclamation PSA	1	<b>\$</b> 0.46	\$0.46
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In a hurry? Self-service kiosks offer quick and easy check-out. Any Retail Associate can show you how.

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Bill#: 1000701827817

Clerk: 01

All sales final on stamps and postage Refunds for guaranteed services only Thank you for your business

HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER

Go to: https://postalexperience.com/Pos

TELL US ABOUT YOUR RECENT POSTAL EXPERIENCE

YOUR OPINION COUNTS

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### RECEIVED

SEP -5 2013

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July 3, 2013

TAYLOR TARANTO 1311 N BEECH AVE PASCO WA 99301

Subject: Warning Letter for Missing C-1 and F-1 Reports

YOUR C-1 AND F-1 REPORTS ARE PAST DUE. Our records indicate that you filed a Declaration of Candidacy to run for public office in 2013. As a candidate for public office in a jurisdiction with 5,000 or more registered voters, you are required to file a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) and a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) within two weeks of declaring your candidacy or no later than May 31, 2013. As of today, the PDC has not received your C-1 and F-1 reports.

IN ORDER TO AVOID ENFORCEMENT ACTION AND A POSSIBLE MONETARY PENALTY, you must deliver the missing C-1 and F-1 reports to our office by Wednesday, July 17, 2013. This is the only formal warning notice you will receive regarding this matter. If the missing C-1 and F-1 reports are not received by July 17<sup>th</sup>, we may schedule a hearing that could result in a monetary penalty.

Please complete the enclosed C-1 and F-1 reports and mail both reports to the PDC immediately. Alternatively, you may also file the C-1 and F-1 reports using an electronic filing option, so long as you also mail a signed signature-authorization form for the C-1 report and a separate signed signature-authorization form for the F-1 report in addition to completing the on-line C-1 and F-1 reports. If you use the electronic filing option, instructions can be found at <a href="www.pdc.wa.gov">www.pdc.wa.gov</a> under "Filer Resource Quick Links" in the lower right hand corner of the PDC's Home Page. Please note, electronic filings are held in a pending state and are not considered filed until the signature form is received by the Public Disclosure Commission.

Mailed reports are considered filed as of the date they are postmarked. We cannot accept faxed or e-mailed C-1 and F-1 reports.

If you have questions about these reports, please contact Chip Beatty at (360) 586-0616 or by email at chip.beatty@pdc.wa.gov; or Jennifer Hansen at (360) 586-4560 or by email at jennifer.hansen@pdc.wa.gov; or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

PDC Staff

Enclosure: Blank F-1 & C-1 reports

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

IN RE THE MATTER OF ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST

PDC CASE NO. 13-151

FINAL ORDER

(Order Upholding Initial Order)

Taylor Taranto

Respondent.

This matter came before the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission on September 26, 2013 at the PDC office, Room 206, Evergreen Plaza Building, 711 Capitol Way, Olympia, Washington. The Respondent, Taylor Taranto, requested a review of the initial order of a brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) in this matter. The review hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 and 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC.

Those present included Amit Ranade, Commission Chair; Grant Degginger, Commission Vice-Chair; and Kathy Turner, Member. Present were Kurt Young, PDC Compliance Officer on behalf of the PDC Staff; PDC Executive Director Andrea McNamara Doyle; Nancy Krier, General Counsel for the Commission; and PDC staff member Nancy Coverdale as recorder/reporter of the proceedings. The Respondent represented himself and participated at the hearing by telephone. The proceeding was open to the public and recorded.

#### I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The matter involved the allegation that Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.205 by failing to timely file a Candidate Registration Form (C-1 report) and RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) as a candidate for School Director in the Pasco School District in 2013.

1	1, Service certify that I mailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at Respondent's respective address, postage prepaid, on the date stated herein.
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3	Signature Date
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