



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission
From: Tabatha Blacksmith, Compliance Coordinator
Date: March 25, 2021
Subject: Aiomanu Betty Patu Enforcement Hearing Memorandum: PDC Case 80248

Allegations:

Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff alleges that Aiomanu B. Patu, former School Director for Seattle School District 001, violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) for calendar years 2018 & 2019 that were due no later than April 15, 2019 and April 15, 2020 respectively.

Background:

- Aiomanu Betty Patu (the “Respondent”) served as School Director for Seattle School District 001 for the term January 1, 2019 through July 1, 2019.
- Pursuant to RCW 42.17A.700, an elected or appointed official who held office in 2019 was required to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report), disclosing personal financial information for calendar year 2018, no later than April 15, 2019.
- In March and April of 2019, PDC staff sent elected and appointed officials eight (8) email reminders regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2018.
- To date, the Respondent has not filed the F-1 report for calendar year 2018 that was due April 15, 2019.
- Per RCW 42.17A.700, the Respondent was also required to file an F-1 report, disclosing personal financial information for calendar year 2019, no later than April 15, 2020.
- Between February and May of 2020, PDC staff emailed nine (9) reminders to elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2019.

- On July 17, 2020, PDC staff mailed warning letters to elected and appointed officials regarding their missing F-1 reports for calendar year 2019.
- From July 27 through October 7, 2020, PDC staff also made telephone calls to elected and appointed officials, and to the representatives in the jurisdictions in which they serve, reminding them of their missed obligation to file the F-1 report covering calendar year 2019 that was due April 15, 2020.
- On March 11, 2021, PDC staff served the Respondent, by e-mail, with a hearing notice for a March 25, 2021 Adjudicative Proceeding (Enforcement Hearing) before the full Public Disclosure Commission concerning failure to file the F-1 reports.
- To date, the Respondent has not filed the F-1 report for calendar year 2019.
- The last F-1 report received from the Respondent (covering 2016) was filed on June 23, 2017.

Prior Violation:

The Respondent has one prior violation of RCW 42. 17A.700 within the last five years:

Violation (PDC Case 38970)

- The Respondent failed to file an F-1 report for calendar year 2017, which was due no later than April 16, 2018.
- At a September 24, 2018 Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing), the Respondent was found in violation of RCW 42.17A.700 and assessed a \$250 penalty for failing to file an F-1 report that was due no later than April 16, 2018.
- To date, the Respondent has not paid the outstanding \$250 civil penalty for case 38970.
- In addition, the missing F-1 report for calendar year 2017 has not been filed.

Staff Recommendations/Additional Information:

- Staff recommends the Commission find that the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 for failing to file F-1 reports for calendar years 2018 & 2019.
- Assess the Respondent a civil penalty, made payable within 30 days of the date of the Order.
- Require the Respondent to file the missing F-1 reports covering calendar years 2018 & 2019 within 30 days of the date of the Order.