

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

NORBERT SCHLECHT 7704 NW ANDERSON AVE VANCOUVER, WA 98665

Also delivered electronically to ""

August 16, 2018

Subject: C-1 and F-1 Brief Enforcement Hearing Notice PDC Case Number 39060

Dear NORBERT SCHLECHT:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) records indicate that you are a candidate for public office in 2018, and we have not received a Candidate Registration (C-1 report) disclosing your campaign information for the 2018 election cycle, or a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) disclosing your financial activities for the preceding twelve months.

RCW 42.17A.205 and RCW 42.17A.700 requires candidates to file an F-1 report and C-1 report, which was to have been filed within two weeks of declaring her/his candidacy, or no later than June 1, 2018. On July 16, 2018, PDC staff sent you a reminder letter to file the missing C-1 and F-1 reports.

In accordance with RCW 42.17A.110 and RCW 42.17A.755, a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Brief Enforcement Hearing) has been scheduled to determine if you violated RCW 42.17A.205 and RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to file the required C-1 report and F-1 reports for the 2018 election cycle. Under the Brief Enforcement Hearing rules, the Presiding Officer has the authority to assess a civil penalty in accordance with WAC 390-37-143, a penalty schedule adopted by the Commission (see enclosed copy).

HEARING INFORMATION

Date and time: **September 24, 2018 at 10 a.m.**Place: Evergreen Plaza Building, Room 206

711 Capitol Way, Olympia, WA, 98504-0908

Presiding Officer: Anne Levinson, Chair, Public Disclosure Commission

HOW TO AVOID THE HEARING

In order to avoid the Brief Enforcement Hearing, please ensure that the following items are mailed and received by the PDC by 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 19, 2018:

- 1. A completed and signed C-1 Report (a blank C-1 form is enclosed).
- 2. A completed and signed F-1 Report (a blank F-1 form is enclosed).
- 3. A signed Statement of Understanding (blank copy enclosed); and
- 4. A check or money order for \$200 (\$100 for each late filed report), made payable to Washington State Treasurer and mail all three items to the following address:

WA State Treasurer - Public Disclosure Commission Financial Office PO Box 41465 Olympia, WA 98504-1465

If there are circumstances you wish to have considered at the Brief Enforcement Hearing, you may attend the hearing in person, participate by telephone, or submit written materials addressed to the Presiding Officer. For your information, most Respondents who participate at the Brief Enforcement hearings participate by telephone or in writing.

If you cannot participate at the Brief Enforcement Hearing, you may provide a written response describing the facts of your case and any circumstances or mitigating factors you would like the Presiding Officer to consider. Please submit your written response by **12:00 p.m. Friday, September 21, 2018**.

If you plan on participating at the Brief Enforcement hearing or have questions about the hearing process, please contact PDC Staff by email at pdc@pdc.wa.gov – and be sure to reference your case number in the subject line of the email.

Sincerely,

PDC Staff Compliance and Enforcement Division

Enclosures:

- Statement of Understanding
- Blank C-1 and F-1 reports
- Brief Enforcement Hearings FAQ
- PDC Penalty Schedule





Candidate



	OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908 (360) 753-1111 Toll Free 1-877-601-2828	Regist	ration		(6/18)		
Candidate's Name (Give	candidate's full name.)					Telephone Number	
Candidate's Committee N	ame (Do not abbreviate.)						
Mailing Address						Candidate's E-Mail Address	
City		County		Zip + 4		Campaign E-Mail Address	
What office are you	running for?	Legislative	District, County or City		Position No.	Do you now hold this office? Yes No	
2. Political party (if par	tisan office)			3. Date of g	eneral or specia	al election	
4. How much do you plan to spend during your entire election campaign, including the primary and general elections? Based on that estimate, choose one of the reporting options below. If no box is checked you are obligated to use Option II, Full Reporting. See instruction manuals for information about reports required and changing reporting options. Option I MINI REPORTING: In addition to my filing fee of \$, I will raise and spend no more than \$5,000, including any charges for inclusion in state and local voters pamphlets. I will not accept more than \$500 in the aggregate from any contributor except myself.							
	L REPORTING: I will use the Ful		·				
	nd Address. Does treasurer perfo t deputy treasurers on attached s				05-243 and next attached sheet	Daytime Telephone Number	
	nd next page for details.					e and address of these persons. See Continued on attached sheet.	
7. Committee Officers	and other persons who authorize	expenditures or make o	decisions on your behalf. Lis	it name, title a	and address. Se	ee next page for definition of "officer." Continued on attached sheet.	
8. Campaign Bank or	Depository		Branch			City	
9. Related or Affiliated Political Committees. List name, address and relationship.							
10. Campaign books must be open to the public by appointment between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. during the 10 calendar days before the election, except Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. In the space below, please provide an email address for scheduling an appointment at a location agreed upon by the treasurer and individual requesting the inspection. In order to make an appointment, contact the campaign at (e-mail):							
11. CERTIFICATION: I certify that this report is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that the candidate's email address herein shall constitute the official address for purposes of all communications with the commission, and that I must notify the commission of any change to that address within ten days. Candidate's Signature Date							

Please consult PDC instruction manuals when completing this report. Reporting requirements are contained in and governed by RCW 42.17A and WAC 390.

C1

CANDIDATE REGISTRATION

Who Must File - Candidates who seek:

- state office (legislative or statewide executive).
- a state supreme court or state court of appeals position,
- local office in jurisdictions having 5,000 or more registered voters as of the last general election or in jurisdictions covering an entire county,
- local office in jurisdictions of any size if the candidate receives or expects to receive \$5,000 or more in contributions.

When To File – <u>Within 2 weeks of becoming a candidate</u>. A person becomes a candidate for PDC purposes when he or she **first** does any of the following:

- receives contributions, makes expenditures, or reserves space or facilities with intent to promote his or her candidacy;
- purchases commercial advertising space or broadcast time to promote his or her candidacy;
- authorizes another person to take one of these above actions on his or her behalf;
- announces publicly that he or she is seeking office; or
- files a declaration of candidacy with the appropriate elections official.

File an amended registration within 10 days of a material change to information provided on previously filed C-1. Reports are considered filed as of the postmark date or date hand-delivered to PDC.

Where To File – Send the original to PDC at the address on the reverse side. Candidates for city offices are advised to contact their City Clerk to learn if local filing is required by local ordinance. Keep a copy for the campaign's records.

"Officer" of a Candidate's Committee – Officer of a candidate's committee includes the following persons:

- any person designated as an officer on the C-1 registration statement, and
- any person who alone or in conjunction with other persons makes, directs, or authorizes contribution, expenditure, strategic or policy decisions on behalf of the committee. [WAC 390-05-245]

Persons who perform "Ministerial Functions" for two or more campaigns

A person may perform ministerial functions for a candidate and a political committee without jeopardizing that political committee's eligibility to make independent expenditures or electioneering communications regarding that candidate as long as:

- the person performs solely ministerial functions for both the candidate and the political committee;
- the person is identified on both the candidate's and political committee's registration statements as a person performing ministerial functions for the campaign; and
- the person does not share information from or about one of the campaigns with the other campaign, or does not use information from or about one of the campaigns to assist the other campaign. [See RCW 42.17A.005 (13)(b)(ix) and WAC 390-05-243 for more detailed information.]

"Ministerial functions" means activities carried out as part of the duties of an administrative office without exercise of personal judgment or discretion. RCW 42.17A.005(33). Also see WAC 390-05-243 for a non-exclusive list of ministerial functions and a definition of administrative office. Typically, persons performing ministerial functions may, under the supervision of a candidate or committee officer, file PDC reports, make deposits, pay bills and maintain campaign finance records. However, if a person performs functions for both a candidate and a political committee and those functions for one or both campaigns entail duties beyond those deemed ministerial, any expenditure by the committee benefiting the candidate may be a contribution, rather than an independent expenditure or electioneering communication. [RCW 42.17A.005(33) and WACs 390-05-243 and 390-05-210]

PUBLIC **PDC FORM DISCLOSURE COMMISSION** PDC OFFICE USE 711 CAPITOL WAY RM 206 PERSONAL FINANCIAL PO BOX 40908 R K OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908 AFFAIRS STATEMENT (360) 753-1111 (1/15)TOLL FREE 1-877-601-2828 **DOLLAR** Refer to instruction manual for detailed assistance and examples. Ε CODE **AMOUNT** c \$1 to \$4,499 Incumbent elected and appointed officials -- by April 15. Е В \$4,500 to \$23,999 Candidates and others -- within two weeks of becoming a \$24,000 to \$47,999 C V candidate or being newly appointed to a position. Ε D \$48,000 to \$119,999 D \$120,000 or more SEND REPORT TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION Last Name Middle Initial Names of immediate family members, including registered domestic partner. If there is no reportable information to disclose for dependent children, or other dependents living in your household, do not identify them. Do identify your spouse or registered domestic partner. See F-1 manual for details. Mailing Address (Use PO Box or Work Address) * City County Zip + 4Filing Status (Check only one box.) Office Held or Sought An elected or state appointed official filing annual report Office title: Final report as an elected official. Term expired: County, city, district or agency of the office, Candidate running in an election: month year name and number: Position number: Newly appointed to an elective office Term begins: ends: Newly appointed to a state appointive office Professional staff of the Governor's Office and the Legislature List each employer, or other source of income (pension, social security, legal judgment, etc.) from which you or a family 1 INCOME member, including registered domestic partner, received \$2,400 or more during the period. Include stock options received during the reporting period that had a value of \$2,400 or more. (Report interest and dividends in Item 3.) Show Self (S) Spouse (SP/DP) Dependent (D) Name and Address of Employer or Source of Compensation Occupation or How Compensation Amount: Was Earned (Use Code) Check Here [] if continued on attached sheet List street address, assessor's parcel number, or legal description AND county for each parcel of Washington real **REAL ESTATE** estate with value of over \$12,000 in which you or a family member, including registered domestic partner, held a

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personal financial interest during the reporting period. (Show partnership, company, etc. real estate on F-1 supplement.)

Nature and Amount (Use Code) of Payment or Property Sold or Interest Divested Assessed Name and Address of Purchaser Value Consideration Received (Use Code) Property Purchased or Interest Acquired Creditor's Name/Address Payment Terms Security Given Mortgage Amount - (Use Code) Original Current All Other Property Entirely or Partially Owned Check here ☐ if continued on attached sheet

A. Name and address of each faint or financial institution in which you, a family member, including registered domestic partner, had an account over \$24,000 any time during the report period. B. Name and address of each insurance company where you, a family member, including registered domestic partner, had a policy with a cash or loan value over \$24,000 during the period. C. Name and address of each insurance company where you, a family member, including registered domestic partner, owned \$24,000 during the period. C. Name and address of each company, association, government agency, etc. in which you, a family member, including registered domestic partner, owned \$2,400 or provided to the provided of the period of th	3 ASSETS / INVESTMENTS - INTEREST / DIVIDENDS	intan		roperty (inc			policies, stoc to stock optic		
member, including registered domestic partner, had a policy with a cash or loan value over \$24.000 during the period. C. Name and address of each company, association, government agency, etc. in which you, a family member, including registered domestic partner, owned or had a financial interest worth over \$2.000 during the period. Options, and other intangleb property. If you, you spouse, registered domestic partner and/or dependents had decision making authority regarding individual assective/investments list each asset or investment, the value and any income amount. EXAMPLE: If you self-directed an investment account identify each stock or other asset in that account investment account directly and investment and address. Creditor's Name and Address Terms of Payment Security Given Original Present Security Given Original Present Terms of Payment Security Given Original Present A lift filters answer questions A thru D below. If the answer is YES to any of these questions, the F-1 Supplement must also be completed as part of this report. If all answers are NO and you are a candidate for state or local office, an appointee to a vacant elective office, or a state executive officer filling your initial report, no F-1 Supplement is required. A at any time during the reporting period were you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents by company or a state vaccutive officer of these officeholders unless all answers to questions A thru E are NO. A at any time during the reporting period were you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents by company. A large for the second office and and state executive force or dependents by a subject to a vacant elective office, or a state vaccutive officer of these officeholders unless all answers to questions A thru E are NO. A at any time during the reporting period were you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependent period or or your pouse, registered domestic partner or dependent period partners or any company, corporation, part	family member, including registered domestic partner, had an acc	ou, a			r Descriptio	n of Asset			
agency, etc. in which you, a family member, including registered domestic partner, owned or had a financial interest worth over \$2.400. Include stocks, bonds, ownership, retirement plan, IRA, notes, stock options, and other intangible property. If you, your spouse, registered domestic partner and/or dependents had decision making authority regarding individual assets/investiments list each asset or investment, the value and any income amount. EXAMPLE: If you self-directed an investment account identify each stock or other asset in that account investment account identify each stock or other asset in that account investment account identify each stock or other asset in that account investment account identify each stock or other asset in that account investment account identify each stock or other asset in that account investment accounts in the property of the prope	member, including registered domestic partner, had a policy w								
A CREDITORS List each creditor you or a family member, including registered domestic partner, owed \$2,400 or or real estate reported in Item 2. Creditor's Name and Address Terms of Payment Security Given Original Present All fillers answer questions A thru D below. If the answer is YES to any of these questions, the F-1 Supplement must also be completed as part of this report. If all answers are NO and you are a candidate for state or local office, an appointee to a vacant elective office, or a state executive officer filing your initial report, no F-1 Supplement is required. A. At any time during the reporting period were you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents (1) an officer, director, general partner or trustee of any componary, union, association, joint venture or other entity or (2) a partner or member of any limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability partnership, limited partnersh	agency, etc. in which you, a family member, including regist domestic partner, owned or had a financial interest worth over \$2 Include stocks, bonds, ownership, retirement plan, IRA, notes, soptions, and other intangible property. If you, your spouse, regist domestic partner and/or dependents had decision making auth regarding individual assets/investments list each asset or investre the value and any income amount. EXAMPLE: If you self-directed investment account identify each stock or other asset in that account identify each stock or other asset in that account identify each stock or other asset in that account identify each stock or other asset in that account identify each stock or other asset in that account identify each stock or other asset in that account identify each stock or other asset in that account identify each stock or other asset in that account identify each stock or other asset in that account identifications.	tered ,400. stock tered hority ment, ed an							
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A. At any time during the reporting period were you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents (1) an officer, director, general partner or trustee of any corporation, company, union, association, joint venture or other entity or (2) a partner or member of any limited partnership, limited liability company or similar entity including but not limited to a professional limited liability company? If yes, complete Supplement, Part A. B. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents have an ownership of 10% or more in any company, corporation, partnership, joint venture or other business at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part A. C. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents own a business at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part A. D. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents prepare, promote or oppose state legislation, rules, rates or standards for compensation or deferred compensation (other than pay for a currently-held public office) at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part B. E. Only for Persons Filing Annual Report. Regarding the receipt of items not provided or paid for by your governmental agency during the previous calendar year: 1) Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents (or any combination thereof) accept a gift of food or beverages costing over \$50 per occasion? or 2) Did any source other than your governmental agency provide or pay in whole or in part for you, your spouse, registered domestic partner and/or dependents to travel or to attend a seminar or other training? If yes to either or both questions, complete Supplement, Part C. ALL FILERS EXCEPT CANDIDATES. Check the appropriate box. CERTIFICATION: I certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.	part of this report. If all answers are NO and you are a candidate	for sta	te or lo						
corporation, company, union, association, joint venture or other entity or (2) a partner or member of any limited partnership, limited liability company or similar entity including but not limited to a professional limited liability company? If yes, complete Supplement, Part A. B. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents have an ownership of 10% or more in any company, corporation, partnership, joint venture or other business at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part A. C. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents own a business at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part A. D. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents prepare, promote or oppose state legislation, rules, rates or standards for compensation or deferred compensation (other than pay for a currently-held public office) at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part B. E. Only for Persons Filing Annual Report. Regarding the receipt of items not provided or paid for by your governmental agency during the previous calendar year: 1) Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents (or any combination thereof) accept a gift of food or beverages costing over \$50 per occasion? or 2) Did any source other than your governmental agency provide or pay in whole or in part for you, your spouse, registered domestic partner and/or dependents to travel or to attend a seminar or other training? If yes to either or both questions, complete Supplement, Part C. ALL FILERS EXCEPT CANDIDATES. Check the appropriate box. CERTIFICATION: I certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.					port also i	nust answer	question E. A	n F-1 Supp	lement is
business at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part A. C. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents own a business at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part A. D. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents prepare, promote or oppose state legislation, rules, rates or standards for compensation or deferred compensation (other than pay for a currently-held public office) at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part B. E. Only for Persons Filing Annual Report. Regarding the receipt of items not provided or paid for by your governmental agency during the previous calendar year: 1) Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents (or any combination thereof) accept a gift of food or beverages costing over \$50 per occasion? or 2) Did any source other than your governmental agency provide or pay in whole or in part for you, your spouse, registered domestic partner and/or dependents to travel or to attend a seminar or other training? If yes to either or both questions, complete Supplement, Part C. ALL FILERS EXCEPT CANDIDATES. Check the appropriate box. CERTIFICATION: I certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.	corporation, company, union, association, joint venture or other entity or	(2) a pa	rtner or r	nember of any	y limited part	nership, limited	liability partnersh		
D. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents prepare, promote or oppose state legislation, rules, rates or standards for compensation or deferred compensation (other than pay for a currently-held public office) at any time during the reporting period? If yes, complete Supplement, Part B. E. Only for Persons Filing Annual Report. Regarding the receipt of items not provided or paid for by your governmental agency during the previous calendar year: 1) Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents (or any combination thereof) accept a gift of food or beverages costing over \$50 per occasion? or 2) Did any source other than your governmental agency provide or pay in whole or in part for you, your spouse, registered domestic partner and/or dependents to travel or to attend a seminar or other training? If yes to either or both questions, complete Supplement, Part C. ALL FILERS EXCEPT CANDIDATES. Check the appropriate box. CERTIFICATION: I certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.	B. Did you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents have an ownership of 10% or more in any company, corporation, partnership, joint venture or other								
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you, your spouse, registered domestic partner or dependents (or any combination thereof) accept a gift of food or beverages costing over \$50 per occasion? or 2) Did any source other than your governmental agency provide or pay in whole or in part for you, your spouse, registered domestic partner and/or dependents to travel or to attend a seminar or other training? If yes to either or both questions, complete Supplement, Part C. ALL FILERS EXCEPT CANDIDATES. Check the appropriate box. I hold a state elected office, am an executive state officer or professional staff. I have read and am familiar with RCW 42.52.180 regarding the use of public									
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☐ I hold a state elected office, am an executive state officer or professional staff. I best of my knowledge. have read and am familiar with RCW 42.52.180 regarding the use of public	ALL FILERS EXCEPT CANDIDATES. Check the appropriate box.			contained in this report is true and corn					
resources in campaigns.	have read and am familiar with RCW 42.52.180 regarding the use of			best of my knowledge.					
☐ I hold a local elected office. I have read and am familiar with RCW 42.17A.555	☐ I hold a local elected office. I have read and am familiar with RC	CW 42.	17A.55	;		.()*		Date	
*CANDIDATES: Do not use public agency addresses or telephone numbers for		ımbers	for	Email:					
contact information. Email:(Home) Optional REPORT NOT ACCEPTABLE WITHOUT FILER'S SIGNATURE									

Public Disclosure Commission Statement of Understanding 2018 Candidate Enforcement Re: C-1/F-1 Reports

I hereby acknowledge that I,,
(Printed Name of Respondent)
did not timely file the required Candidate Registration (C-1 Report) and Personal Financial Affairs Statement
(F-1 Report) with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) as required for a candidate seeking elected office in
2018. The C-1 and F-1 Reports were due to be filed within two weeks of my becoming a candidate in the 2018
election, or no later than June 1, 2018, thereby violating RCW 42.17A.205 and RCW 42.17A.700.
I want to avoid the time and expense resulting from a Brief Adjudicative Hearing (Brief Enforcement Hearing)
before the Presiding Officer. Therefore, I am filing both the C-1 and F-1 reports, completing the Statement of
Understanding, and enclosing a check or money order in the amount of \$200 (\$100 for each late filed report),
in lieu of a September 24, 2018 Brief Enforcement hearing being held.
I understand that this will resolve all issues with the PDC regarding my failure to timely file the C-1 and F-1
reports, provided that a check or money order for \$200, the completed missing report(s), and this signed
Statement of Understanding are all received by Wednesday, September 19, 2018.
I further understand that Commission staff will not be scheduling a Brief Enforcement hearing before the
Presiding Officer regarding my obligation to timely file the C-1 and F-1 report that were due within two weeks.
Signature of Respondent/Candidate Date Signed
Be sure to include your C-1 and F-1 reports, and make your check or money order payable to "Washington
State Treasurer" and mail or deliver this Statement of Understanding, your completed C-1 and F-1 reports, and

WA State Treasurer - Public Disclosure Commission Financial Office PO Box 41465 Olympia, WA 98504-1465

your \$200 payment to the following address:

BRIEF ENFORCEMENT HEARINGS

You have received a letter scheduling a brief enforcement hearing before the Public Disclosure Commission. You are referred to as the Respondent in this matter. Here are the answers to some Frequently Asked Questions about brief hearings. They are informational only and should not be considered legal advice.

What is a brief enforcement hearing?

The PDC may schedule a brief enforcement hearing (also known as a "brief adjudicative proceeding" under the Administrative Procedure Act) when evidence shows the following types of alleged violations may have occurred:

- Failure to file or timely file required reports of financial affairs, campaign contributions and/or expenditures, independent expenditures or funds spent on lobbying;
- Improper use of public facilities or resources in election campaigns when the value of public funds expended or facilities used was minimal; and
- Infractions of political advertising laws regarding sponsor identification or political party identification.

Brief hearings may be scheduled on other matters as well, if the basic facts are agreed to or not being contested, and it is anticipated that the likely penalty imposed (if a violation of law or rule is found) will be \$1,000 or less. The Commission has adopted a penalty schedule for Brief Enforcement Hearings which can be found in WAC 390-37-143.

A Presiding Officer, who is the Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission or another commissioner, will conduct the hearing. PDC staff will present the case to the Presiding Officer, and you will have an opportunity to explain the circumstances related to the alleged violations. You may do this in person, by telephone, or in writing by email or letter.

What can I do to avoid the hearing?

If you received a hearing notice that included information about how to avoid a hearing, you may do so by filing the missing report(s), paying the stated penalty, and completing a Statement of Understanding stipulating to a violation. If you would like to stipulate and have questions, please contact PDC Compliance and Enforcement staff.

What do I do to prepare for the hearing?

The brief hearings are informal in nature, and you are not required to have an attorney for this hearing. Most people represent themselves, but that is your decision.

In-person participation. If you are attending in-person, bring all of the written information that you want the Presiding Officer to consider in making a decision. You will need to bring three copies of each — one for you, one for PDC staff, and one for the Presiding Officer. Alternatively, you may submit one copy to PDC staff so long as it is received five business days before the day of the hearing.

If you are having other people (witnesses) testify on your behalf, they must be available at the hearing, and staff needs to be informed of the number of witnesses and time needed. The scheduled hearing starting time is an estimate, as there is frequently more than one hearing scheduled for that day, and you will need to remain available to participate until your case is called.

Telephone participation. If you wish to participate by phone, please let PDC staff know five business days in advance the number where you can be reached and the timeframe you are available. You must be available at the designated time and telephone number. Be aware the hearing time is an estimate, and you must be available until your case is called.

Participation in writing. If you are participating in writing only, make sure any written materials you want the Presiding Officer to consider are delivered to the PDC office no later than five business days before the hearing.

If you have submitted nothing in writing prior to the hearing, have made no other arrangements, and you do not appear in person or through your legal counsel at the hearing, it will be presumed that you have decided to waive your right to participate at the hearing.

What happens at the hearing?

The Presiding Officer will introduce the participants and explain the procedure for the hearing. Hearings typically follow a set format and time limits, but the process is informal enough that non-lawyers can effectively present their cases and respondents can represent themselves.

PDC staff will first present information regarding the alleged violation of law or rule. You will then have an opportunity to present information relevant to your case. All testimony is given under oath. The Presiding Officer may ask you some questions about the information you or PDC staff have presented. If you have decided to participate in writing instead of in person or by phone, your written information will be considered by the Presiding Officer as part of the hearing materials.

If at any time the Presiding Officer believes the alleged violations are serious enough to merit penalties greater than \$1,000, the Presiding Officer will adjourn the hearing and direct the matter be scheduled for a hearing before the full Commission at a later time.

How is the decision made?

After considering all the information presented at the hearing, the Presiding Officer will make a decision about the allegations and any appropriate penalty amount. The decision is typically announced orally at the hearing. A written decision, called an initial order, will be sent to you within 10 business days.

In some cases, the Presiding Officer may use a penalty schedule referred to above that has been adopted by the Commission in rule to determine the appropriate penalty for certain types of violations.

What happens after my hearing?

You will receive a written initial order, along with a cover letter explaining the Presiding Officer's findings, within 10 business days. If a monetary penalty is imposed in this initial order, the penalty must be paid to the **Washington**State Treasurer, and mailed to the address listed in the order cover letter within the time frame stated in the order.

Along with your initial order, you will also receive information about your appeal rights, including how to request review or reconsideration by the full Commission if you disagree with the order. Follow these procedures carefully if you wish to appeal. If there is no appeal before the PDC, the initial order becomes a final order, and further appeals must be made in Superior Court.

What are the rules that apply to the procedures of my hearing?

The PDC's laws and rules are available on the PDC's website at www.pdc.wa.gov. The laws are in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 42.17A. The rules are in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Title 390. Brief adjudicative proceedings are described at WAC 390-37-140 through 390-37-150 and in the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) at RCW 34.05.482-494

WAC 390-37-143

Brief enforcement hearings (adjudicative proceeding)—Penalty schedule.

The presiding officer may assess a penalty up to one thousand dollars upon finding a violation of chapter <u>42.17A</u> RCW or Title 390 WAC.

(1) Base penalty amounts:

Violation	1st Occasion	2nd Occasion	3rd Occasion			
Failure to timely file an accurate and complete statement of financial affairs (F-1):						
Filed report after hearing notice, but before enforcement hearing. Provided written explanation or appeared at hearing to explain mitigating circumstances. Did not enter into statement of understanding.	\$0 - \$150	\$150 - \$300	\$300 - \$600			
Filed report after hearing notice, but before enforcement hearing. Did not enter into statement of understanding.	\$150	\$300	\$600			
Failed to file report by date of enforcement hearing.	\$250	\$500	\$1,000			
Candidate's failure to timely file an accurate and complete reg financial affairs (F-1):	istration sta	tement (C-1)/statement of			
Filed report after hearing notice, but before enforcement hearing. Provided written explanation or appeared at hearing to explain mitigating circumstances. Did not enter into statement of understanding.	\$0 - \$150 per report	\$150 - \$300 per report	\$300 - \$600 per report up to \$1,000			
Filed report after hearing notice, but before enforcement hearing. Did not enter into statement of understanding.	\$150 per report	\$300 per report	\$600 per report up to \$1,000			
Failed to file report by date of enforcement hearing.	\$250 per report	\$500 per report	consideration by full commission			

.... (emphasis added)

"Occasion" means established violation. Only violations in the last five years will be considered for the purpose of determining second and third occasions.

- (2) In determining the appropriate penalty, the presiding officer may consider the nature of the violation and aggravating and mitigating factors, including:
 - (a) Whether the respondent is a first-time filer;
- (b) The respondent's compliance history for the last five years, including whether the noncompliance was isolated or limited in nature, indicative of systematic or ongoing problems, or part of a pattern of violations by the respondent, or in the case of a political committee or other entity, part of a pattern of violations by the respondent's officers, staff, principal decision makers, consultants, or sponsoring organization;
 - (c) The respondent's unpaid penalties from a previous enforcement action;
- (d) The impact on the public, including whether the noncompliance deprived the public of timely or accurate information during a time-sensitive period, or otherwise had a significant or material impact on the public;
- (e) The amount of financial activity by the respondent during the statement period or election cycle;
- (f) Whether the late or unreported activity was significant in amount or duration under the circumstances, including in proportion to the total amount of expenditures by the respondent in the campaign or statement period;
- (g) Corrective action or other remedial measures initiated by respondent prior to enforcement action, or promptly taken when noncompliance brought to respondent's attention;
- (h) Good faith efforts to comply, including consultation with commission staff prior to initiation of enforcement action and cooperation with commission staff during enforcement action, and a demonstrated wish to acknowledge and take responsibility for the violation;
- (i) Personal emergency or illness of the respondent or member of his or her immediate family;
 - (i) Other emergencies such as fire, flood, or utility failure preventing filing;
- (k) Sophistication of respondent or the financing, staffing, or size of the respondent's campaign or organization;
- (I) Commission staff, third-party vendor, or equipment error, including technical problems at the agency preventing or delaying electronic filing.
- (3) The presiding officer has authority to suspend all or a portion of an assessed penalty under the conditions to be determined by that officer including, but not limited to, payment of the nonsuspended portion of the penalty within five business days of the date of the entry of the order in that case.
- (4) If, on the third occasion, a respondent has outstanding penalties or judgments, the matter will be directed to the full commission for consideration.

- (5) The presiding officer may direct a matter to the full commission if the officer believes one thousand dollars would be an insufficient penalty or the matter warrants consideration by the full commission. Cases will automatically be scheduled before the full commission for an enforcement action when the respondent:
 - (a) Was found in violation during a previous reporting period;
 - (b) The violation remains in effect following any appeals; and
- (c) The person has not filed the disclosure forms that were the subject of the prior violation at the time the current hearing notice is being sent.

[Statutory Authority: RCW <u>42.17A.110</u>(1) and <u>42.17A.570</u>. WSR 18-10-088, § 390-37-143, filed 5/1/18, effective 6/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW <u>42.17A.110</u>. WSR 17-03-004, § 390-37-143, filed 1/4/17, effective 2/4/17.]