

Washington State Public Disclosure Commission 711 Capitol Way, Room 2016 PO Box 40908

Olympia, WA 98504-0908

Phone: 360-753-1111 Fax: 360-753-1112

www.pdc.wa.gov

To: Commissioners, Washington State Public Disclosure Commission

From: Evelyn Fielding Lopez, Executive Director

Date: April 24, 2017

Re: Recusal Language in F-1 Forms

Recusal Language Suggestion

At the January PDC Meeting, the Commission heard a request for a modification from Jay Manning, a Trustee for Eastern Washington University. During the discussion on the request, Mr. Manning mentioned that he would recuse himself from any decision at EWU that would be a conflict of interest:

As a long time government person who believes in what you do and your rules, that if I were to ever have a situation that were to come up where a client of the firm, mine or some other partner's, some contract decision or a grant decision or something like that, I would recuse myself because, (1) the rules of Eastern Washington University require that, and (2) it's obvious that the rules of professional conduct for a lawyer require it, and my own compass would require that.

January 26, 2017 PDC Meeting, Reporting Modification: Jay J. Manning; Comments of Manning.

After the modification was approved, Chair Levinson suggested that the PDC look into adding some language about recusal on the F-1 so that "when the person signs the F1 they are attesting that they would in fact recuse themselves should any circumstances change so that what Mr. Manning has offered here would become a normal course of business." Chair Levinson appeared to be suggesting that the F-1 Form be amended to add some language regarding recusal.

Jennifer Hansen, Filer Assistance Specialist, noted that she could easily change the modification request form so that anyone asking for a modification of the F-1 report would attest that they would recuse themselves from any matter that posed a conflict of interest with business or personal interests.

It was unclear in the following discussion if the Commission was expressing a desire to change the F-1 Form that all F-1 filers submit, or the modification application that is only submitted by those asking for relief from submitting some information.

Form Change Options

1. <u>The F-1 Form</u>: Changing the F-1 Form is not easy because the form is in rule, and any changes to the paper form also requires changes/programming for the electronic form. A copy of WAC 390-24-010 is attached. Nonetheless, if the Commission wants to add recusal language to the F-1 Form, it might be appropriate to add language to the certification next to the signature block.

The F-1 Form currently provides: "CERTIFICATION: I certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge." It could be amended to include: "Should any matter come before me that would pose a conflict of interest with my personal or business interests, I will recuse myself from the decision."

2. <u>The F-1 Report Modification Request</u>: The F-1 Report Modification Request is a form developed and maintained by PDC staff. It is not in rule, and could be changed to fit emerging needs. A copy of the Modification Request form is attached.

Recusal language could be added to page 6 of the application, which currently provides:

- 1. CUSTOMERS OR SOURCES OF COMPENSATION/INCOME. If you are seeking a modification related to a particular entity's reportable customers or sources of compensation/income for an entity, describe:
 - In detail the position you hold in the entity (examples: owner, board member, officer, partner, etc.) and the duties performed by you for that entity, if any (examples: setting policy, hiring, approving contracts, approving budgets, etc.). Please provide as much description as possible.
 - If you (or if you are seeking office, will you) make any decisions as a
 public official that may benefit the customers of the entity for which you
 are seeking a modification, or sources of compensation/income for the
 entity for which you are seeking a modification?

An additional bullet point could be added: "If you have any matter come before you that would pose a conflict of interest with personal or business interests, will you recuse yourself from the decision?"

Recusal Language in F-1 Forms April 24, 2017 Page 3

Recommendation

If the Commission wishes to add recusal language, the Modification Request application can most easily be changed. If that is the desired option, the Commission should ask the Director of Communications and Outreach to work with the Customer Service staff to make the change and report back to the Commission.

If the Commission wishes to change the F-1 Form, I recommend that change be added to the list of changes to be considered when the F-1 application is updated by the IT Division.

Enclosures

WAC 390-24-010

Forms for statement of financial affairs.

The official form for statements of financial affairs as required by RCW **42.17A.700** is designated "F-1," revised 1/15. Copies of this form are available on the commission's web site, www.pdc.wa.gov, and at the Commission Office, 711 Capitol Way, Room 206, Evergreen Plaza Building, P.O. Box 40908, Olympia, Washington 98504-0908. Any paper attachments must be on 8-1/2" x 11" white paper.

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В.	Name and address of each insurance company where you, a member, including registered domestic partner, had a policy scash or loan value over \$24,000 during the period.						
C.	Name and address of each company, association, govern agency, etc. in which you, a family member, including regis domestic partner, owned or had a financial interest worth \$2,400. Include stocks, bonds, ownership, retirement plan, notes, stock options, and other intangible property. If you, spouse, registered domestic partner and/or dependents had demaking authority regarding individual assets/investments list asset or investment, the value and any income amount. EXAM If you self-directed an investment account identify each stoother asset in that account.	over IRA, your cision each MPLE:					
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C.							
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REPORT NOT ACCEPTABLE WITHOUT FILER'S SIGNAT



711 CAPITOL WAY RM 206 PO BOX 40908 **OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908** (360) 753-1111 TOLL FREE 1-877-601-2828

PDC FORM F-1 SUPPLEMENT

SUPPLEMENT PAGE PERSONAL FINANCIAL AFFAIRS STATEME

CONTINUE PARTS B AND C ON NEXT PAG

EMAIL: pdc@pdc.wa.gov PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR YOURSELF, SPOUSE, REGISTERED DOMESTIC PARTNER, DEPENDENT CHILDREN AND OTHER DEPENDENTS YOUR HOUSEHOLD Last Name First Middle Initial DATE OFFICE HELD, Provide the following information if, during the reporting period, you, your spouse, registered domestic partner Α BUSINESS dependents INTERESTS: (1) were an officer, director, general partner, trustee, or 10 percent or more owner of a corporation, non-pr organization, union, partnership, joint venture or other entity; and/or were a partner or member of a limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company similar entity, including but not limited to a professional limited liability company. Legal Name: Report name used on legal documents establishing the entity. Trade or Operating Name: Report name used for business purposes if different from the legal name. Position or Percent of Ownership: The office, title and/or percent of ownership held Brief Description of the Business/Organization: Report the purpose, product(s), and/or the service(s) rendered. Payments from Governmental Unit: If the governmental unit in which you hold or seek office made payments to the businentity concerning which you're reporting, show the purpose of each payment and the actual amount received. Payments from Business Customers and Other Government Agencies: List each corporation, partnership, joint venture, s proprietorship, union, association, business or other commercial entity and each government agency (other than the one) seek/hold office) which paid compensation of \$12,000 or more during the period to the entity. Briefly say what property, god services or other consideration was given or performed for the compensation. Washington Real Estate: Identify real estate owned by the business entity if the qualifications referenced below are met. Reporting For: Self Spouse ENTITY NO. 1 Registered Domestic Partner Dependent POSITION OR PERCENT OF OWNERSHIP LEGAL NAME: TRADE OR OPERATING NAME: ADDRESS BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: PAYMENTS ENTITY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTAL UNIT IN WHICH YOU SEEK/HOLD OFFICE: Amount (actual dollars) S PAYMENTS ENTITY RECEIVED FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OF \$12,000 OR MORE: Agency name: Purpose of payment (amount not required PAYMENTS ENTITY RECEIVED FROM BUSINESS CUSTOMERS OF \$12,000 OR MORE Purpose of payment (amount not required Customer name WASHINGTON REAL ESTATE IN WHICH ENTITY HELD A DIRECT FINANCIAL INTEREST (Complete only if ownership in the ENTITY is 10% or m and assessed value of property is over \$24,000. List street address, assessor parcel number, or legal description and county for each parcel): Check here if continued on attached sheet

Page 2		Г-	Supplement
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[Statutory Authority: RCW **42.17A.110** and **42.17A.125**(2). WSR 15-01-066, § 390-24-010, filed 12/11/14, effective 1/11/15. Statutory Authority: RCW **42.17A.110**. WSR 12-03-002, § 390-24-010, filed 1/4/12, effective 2/4/12. Statutory Authority: RCW **42.17.370**. WSR 09-14-061, § 390-24-010, filed 6/29/09, effective 7/30/09; WSR 08-19-058, § 390-24-010, filed 9/12/08, effective 11/5/08. Statutory Authority: RCW **42.17.370**(1). WSR 08-01-070, § 390-24-010, filed 12/14/07, effective 1/14/08. Statutory Authority: RCW **42.17.370** and **42.17.241** (1) (n). WSR 07-04-084, § 390-24-010, filed 2/5/07, effective 3/8/07. Statutory Authority: RCW **42.17.370**. WSR 06-18-034, § 390-24-010, filed 8/28/06, effective 9/28/06; WSR 05-06-070, §

390-24-010, filed 3/1/05, effective 4/1/05; WSR 02-20-036, § 390-24-010, filed 9/24/02, effective 10/25/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370(1). WSR 00-22-053, § 390-24-010, filed 10/27/00, effective 11/27/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370 (1) and (11) and 42.17.241 (1)(n). WSR 97-23-020, § 390-24-010, filed 11/10/97, effective 1/1/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370(1). WSR 96-09-017, § 390-24-010, filed 4/8/96, effective 5/9/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370. WSR 91-24-011, § 390-24-010, filed 11/22/91, effective 12/23/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.370(1). WSR 88-20-029 (Order 88-04), § 390-24-010, filed 9/29/88; WSR 86-19-039 (Order 86-06), § 390-24-010, filed 9/12/86; WSR 86-08-030 (Order 86-02), § 390-24-010, filed 3/26/86; WSR 85-24-020 (Order 85-05), § 390-24-010, filed 11/26/85; WSR 84-01-017 (Order 83-03), § 390-24-010, filed 12/9/83; WSR 80-18-028 (Order 80-07), § 390-24-010, filed 12/1/80; WSR 80-02-055 (Order 80-01), § 390-24-010, filed 1/17/80; Order 94, § 390-24-010, filed 10/31/77; Order 87, § 390-24-010, filed 11/19/76; Order 62, § 390-24-010, filed 8/26/75; Order 48, § 390-24-010, filed 3/3/75; Order 44, § 390-24-010, filed 9/26/74; Order 6, § 390-24-010, filed 3/23/73.1

Washington State Public Disclosure Commission

Personal Financial Affairs Statement
Reporting Modification Application Questionnaire, Instructions And Certification
June 2015



Application Questionnaire Instructions

The purpose of the Public Disclosure Act in chapter RCW 42.17A includes at RCW 42.17A.001(3):

"That the people shall be assured that the private financial dealings of their public officials, and of candidates for those offices, present no conflict of interest between the public trust and private interest."

The form for providing disclosures of financial affairs is the F-1 Personal Financial Affairs Statement. The Act also provides for a process to seek a modification or suspension of reporting some information. RCW 42.17A.110(10) states in part:

"After hearing, by order approved and ratified by a majority of the membership of the commission, [the commission is empowered to] suspend or modify any of the reporting requirements of this chapter in a particular case if it finds that literal application of this chapter works a manifestly unreasonable hardship and if it also finds that the suspension or modification will not frustrate the purposes of the chapter...

... Any suspension or modification shall be only to the extent necessary to substantially relieve the hardship. The commission shall act to suspend or modify any reporting requirements only if it determines that facts exist that are clear and convincing proof of the findings required under this section." (Emphasis added).

Possible qualifications for modifications or suspensions (referred to collectively as "modifications") are found at RCW 42.17A.110(10) and WAC 390-28-100. Copies of these provisions and reporting requirements are on the PDC's website at www.pdc.wa.gov under "Laws and Rules." The Personal Financial Affairs Statement Instruction Manual is also available on the website, under "Filer Resources — Manuals and Brochures." The Commission has also adopted Interpretations addressing modifications for certain professions and situations, and those are also available under "Laws and Rules" then "Interpretations." Modifications, if granted by the Commission, cover only one reporting period. Another application must be made in the following years if you still need a modification.

PDC staff has implemented this application procedure for filers requesting an F-1 Reporting Modification from the Commission. This is designed to provide more uniform information to the Commission from filers seeking a modification, and to enable a quicker response to possible questions about a request from the Commission at the hearing. Please fill out this Application Questionnaire prior to having a modification request taken to the full Commission for consideration. The blanks in this document will expand to accommodate your answers. It is suggested that you review this entire Application Questionnaire first, before filling out your answers.

✓ If you are requesting a modification, whether new or a renewal of an earlier request, please:

- (1) Complete or review your filed Personal Financial Affairs Statement (PDC Form F- 1) including Supplemental attachments (<u>except</u> for the information for which you are seeking a modification leave the relevant sections or lines blank on the F-1 form at this time);
- (2) Answer all questions (# 1 # 8) on this Application Questionnaire, unless otherwise directed below,
- (3) Confirm whether you authorize the PDC to use email may correspond with you about your request by email:
- (4) Sign the Certification if you do not intend to be present at the Commission hearing on your modification request, and
- (5) Return this Application Questionnaire to the PDC via e-mail, mail, fax or other delivery (and also send the original of the Certification to the PDC).
- Please note, however, that while this Application Questionnaire for filers seeking a modification can be returned to the PDC in several ways, <u>F-1 forms</u> cannot be filed by fax or e-mail. See filing instructions in the *Personal Financial Affairs Statement Instruction Manual*.

✓ Other items to consider:

- Filers for which a PDC Interpretation may apply. As noted, the Commission has adopted Interpretations for specific filers that are requesting modifications. Those filers include attorneys, automobile dealers, judges and judicial candidates, and spouses of elected and appointed officials, and also include candidates for public office. If you qualify as a filer under an Interpretation, please review the applicable Interpretation and provide the information pursuant to the Interpretation as part of your F-1 or F-1 Supplement forms. Copies of the Interpretations are available on the PDC website at www.pdc.wa.gov under "Laws & Rules" then "Interpretations."
- <u>Competitive disadvantage</u>. If you are claiming a competitive disadvantage (in disclosing information), you must describe in detail the competitive environment in which the entity operates and explain how disclosure would likely affect the competitive position of the entity.
- Please carefully review your F-1 and/or F-1 Supplement to ensure each form is fully completed. Here are some commonly overlooked areas:
- Do you make the buy and sell decisions with regard to the IRA's, stocks and other securities listed
 as retirement or income generating assets in Section 3c of your F-1? If the answer is YES (if you
 control the buy and sell decisions) you must identify the individual securities or mutual funds
 held.
- Did you disclose all of your retirement accounts (i.e. IRA, 401 k, deferred compensation, PERS 1, 2, 3 or TRS or LEOFF, etc.)?
- Did you complete all of the questions in Section 5 of the F-1?

Questions? If you have questions, you may contact PDC staff at (360) 753-1111; 1-877-601-2828 (toll-free in Washington State). The PDC Fax number is: (360) 753-1112. E-mail: pdc@pdc.wa.gov. The PDC address is on the last page of this form (Certification).

Application Questionnaire

Filer N	Background Information lame:
Filer C	Office Held or Sought:
Date o	of Request:
Period	Covered by Request:
	Questions
Please	e answer questions # 1 - # 8 below, unless:
	RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS. If you are seeking only nondisclosure of a residential address, answer # 1, # 4, # 6 and # 8.
	SPOUSAL SEPARATION. If you are seeking <u>only</u> nondisclosure of information related to your spouse based upon a recent or pending divorce or separation, or because it relates to a bona fide separate property agreement or other bona fide separate status, answer # 1, # 4, # 7 and # 8. A request for nondisclosure may be considered when such financial interest does not constitute a present or prospective source of income for you.
	EMAIL AUTHORIZATION. Check the box below to give the PDC permission to provide future correspondence about your request – including hearing orders – to you by email.
] 1	☐ I authorize the PDC to provide future correspondence to me email rather than sending it through the U. S. mail. Email address:
(6 8	MODIFICATION REQUEST SUMMARY. Describe the general nature of the information you do not wish to disclose. (Examples: financial interests where reporting the name would likely adversely affect the competitive position of an entity, customer lists of a business entity or sources of compensation/income for the entity, confidential relationships, information subject to bona fide separate property agreements, personal residential address, other).

in d the thos	REASONABLE HARDSHIP. Describe in detail the manifestly unreasonable hardship isclosing the information. Please describe in detail the reasons why you believe disclosing information would be a hardship. The reasons stated should address the issues such as a listed below. Please address those topics below that are relevant to your specific request. example, if you are seeking nondisclosure related to an entity, for each entity, please:
•	Provide the name and description of the entity, business, union, association, not-for-profit, charitable organization, or other entity for which you are seeking a modification request from reporting the entity's disclosable customers/sources of compensation/income.
•	Describe the size of the entity such as annual sales, number of customers or accounts, the number of employees, and other pertinent information.
•	Describe how many business customers or other sources paying the entity more than \$12,000 would be subject to disclosure.
•	Describe if you have access to information about the entity's customer base or sources of compensation/income.
•	Describe if you are involved with the day-to-day operations of the entity.
•	Describe if any of the entity's customers or sources of compensation/income are already listed in other public sources or publications including advertisements, or public records.
•	Describe if any of the entity's customers or sources of compensation/income are already listed on a website.
	If the entity has a website address, list it here:
	 If the entity's customers or sources of compensation/income are described elsewhere on the Internet, describe why you are seeking a modification (nondisclosure) for those customers or sources of compensation/income:

[Note: along with other information provided in the Application Questionnaire, Internet information regarding entities/sources of compensation/income may be reviewed by PDC staff and/or the Commission as part of the modification process.]

•	Describe if the entity has the ability to sort its customer list or sources of compensation/income to identify those paying the entity more than \$12,000 during the reporting period.
•	Describe if you disclosed all of the governmental customers or governmental sources of compensation/income that paid the entity more than \$12,000 in the reporting period.
•	Indicate whether you have an ownership interest of 10% or more in the entity.
•	Indicate whether your spouse's interest in an entity requires you to complete an F-1 Supplement for that entity.
•	Describe other relevant information you believe the Commission should consider as to why it would be a manifestly unreasonable hardship if the information was required to be disclosed.



4. **NOT FRUSTRATE THE PURPOSES OF THE ACT.** Describe how allowing you to not disclose the information described in your modification request does not frustrate the purposes of the Public Disclosure Act.



5. **DUTIES.** Describe your duties as an elected or appointed official. Please describe the jurisdiction or agency for which you hold public office, and the duties performed by you as a public official (examples: adopting rules or ordinances, hiring staff, approving contracts, setting policy, etc.). Please provide as much description as possible.



- 6. CUSTOMERS OR SOURCES OF COMPENSATION/INCOME. If you are seeking a modification related to a particular entity's reportable customers or sources of compensation/income for an entity, describe:
 - In detail the position you hold in the entity (examples: owner, board member, officer, partner, etc.) and the duties performed by you for that entity, if any (examples: setting policy, hiring, approving contracts, approving budgets, etc.). Please provide as much description as possible.
 - If you (or if you are seeking office, will you) make any decisions as a public official that
 may benefit the customers of the entity for which you are seeking a modification, or
 sources of compensation/income for the entity for which you are seeking a modification?



7. RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS. Are you requesting to be exempted from disclosing the address of your personal residence in the Real Estate Section of the F-1? In this situation, you or your spouse may be a law enforcement officer, prosecutor, judge, or other official, and the disclosure of the address of your primary residence on the F-1 form could cause you or your family harm, based upon tangible evidence or a specific threat. If so, please explain in detail the manifestly unreasonable hardship if disclosure were required, and why the purposes of the act would not be frustrated if disclosure of the address was not required. If nondisclosure is based upon an anti-harassment or similar court order, please state.



8. SPOUSAL SEPARATION. Are you requesting to be exempted from disclosing information related to your spouse based on a pending or recent divorce or separation, or bona fide separate property agreement or other bona fide separate status? In this situation, the filer

has little or no knowledge of spouse's or former spouse's income, assets, liabilities or relationship to outside entities for which reporting may be required. (For example, do you file separate income tax returns?) The filer does not have access to spouse's or former spouse's financial information. The financial interest of the spouse or former spouse does not constitute a present or prospective source of income for the filer. If this is your situation, please describe.



9. OTHER INFORMATION. Is there any other information you want the Commission to consider regarding your modification request? (If you are attaching any information or documents, please describe attachments.)



➤ IF YOU WILL NOT BE ATTENDING THE HEARING IN PERSON OR BY PHONE TO ATTEST THE ABOVE INFORMATION AND RESPOND TO COMMISSION QUESTIONS, YOU MUST ALSO COMPLETE AND SIGN THE ATTACHED CERTIFICATION PRIOR TO SUBMISSION.

Certification for an Application for a Reporting Modification or Suspension When Applicant Is Waiving Personal Appearance At the Hearing (Notary Not Required)

I am waiving my personal appearance at the hearing on my request for a reporting modification or suspension, and request the Commission to consider my written application. I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the facts set forth in the attached application for a reporting modification are true and accurate to the best of my actual knowledge or belief.

List the date of the application request:			
Entity or name of individual requesting reporting modification:			_
Your signature:			
Your printed name:			
Business street address:			
City, state and zip code:			
Telephone number: ()			
E-Mail Address:			
Date Signed:			
Place Signed (City and County):	City	County	
*RCW 94 72 040 provides that: "(1) A person	is quilty of false swearing	n if he makes a false stat	ement which he knows to

*RCW 9A.72.040 provides that: "(1) A person is guilty of false swearing if he makes a false statement, which he knows to be false, under an oath required or authorized by law. (2) False swearing is a gross misdemeanor."

IF YOU FAX OR SCAN AND SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED CERTIFICATION VIA E-MAIL TO THE PDC WITH YOUR MODIFICATION REQUEST, THE ORIGINAL MUST STILL BE PROVIDED. RETURN THE ORIGINAL OF THIS CERTIFICATION TO:

WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION 711 Capitol Way Room 206
P.O. Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504-0908
Attn: Reporting Modification Request