



State of Washington

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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To: Presiding Officer Anne Levinson, Commission Chair
From: Micaiah Ragins, Compliance Coordinator
Date: February 16, 2018
Re: Kittitas School Director Candidate, Chad Johnson, PDC Case 30377

Agenda Item

PDC staff is alleging that Chad Johnson, a 2017 candidate for School Director in the Kittitas School District, violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1 report) due within two weeks of becoming a 2017 candidate, or no later than June 2, 2017, disclosing financial information for the preceding twelve months.

Background

- Chad Johnson was a first-time candidate for School Director in the Kittitas School District.
- As a 2017 candidate for School Director, Mr. Johnson was required to file an F-1 report within two weeks of becoming a candidate or no later than June 2, 2017, disclosing personal financial information for the preceding twelve months.
- On June 5, 2017, Mr. Johnson submitted a signed PDC Statement of Termination of Campaign with the Public Disclosure Commission signed and filed a statement of termination of campaign with the Public Disclosure Commission. The Statement of Termination explains if the candidate wins the election and accepts the office, that the PDC will conduct enforcement action for his failure to file the C-1 and F-1 reports as required by RCW 42.17A.
- On December 7, 2017, PDC staff confirmed that Mr. Johnson won the election for School Director after terminating his campaign with the PDC.
- On January 3, 2018, PDC staff contacted the Kittitas School District and verified that Mr. Johnson accepted the office after winning the election and was serving as School Director. PDC staff then notified Mr. Johnson and informed him that PDC staff would be sending him a Brief Enforcement Hearing notice as indicated in the Statement of Termination.

- On January 3, 2018, Mr. Johnson submitted a written response to the PDC, retracting his Statement of Termination and indicating that the document was submitted by him as a mistake due to an influx of other paperwork.
- On January 8, 2018, Mr. Johnson filed the missing F-1 report.
- On February 2, 2018, PDC staff sent a hearing notice to Mr. Johnson for the February 16, 2018, Brief Enforcement Hearing. The notice was sent to the mailing address on the F-1 report filed by Mr. Johnson at “P.O. Box 886, Kittitas, WA 98926.” In addition, consistent with WAC 390-37-060(4), the hearing notice was also sent electronically to the e-mail address provided by the school district at “chad@dandcdistributors.com.”
- On February 12, 2018, PDC staff contacted the Kittitas County Elections Office to verify that Chad Johnson was appointed to the Kittitas School Director position on January 20, 2018.

Staff Recommendation/Comments

- PDC staff recommends that the Presiding Officer assess a \$150 civil penalty for against Chad Johnson for failing to timely file the F-1 report, in accordance with WAC 390-37-143, the penalty schedule adopted by the Commission, for a filer’s first occasion and the missing report was filed prior to the date of the Brief Enforcement hearing.

Attachments:

- June 5, 2017, Statement of Termination of Campaign
- November 7, 2017, Kittitas County General Election Results for Chad Johnson
- January 3, 2018, Letter from Chad Johnson

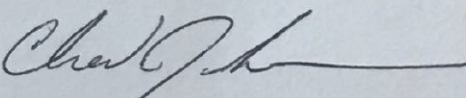
**Statement of Termination of Campaign for Public Disclosure
Commission Purposes Only**

Name: Chad Johnson

Office Sought: School board #403

Jurisdiction: Kittitas, WA.

1. I understand that this statement is not an official withdrawal from the campaign, which can only be done with the appropriate elections office, and not with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).
2. I have terminated my campaign and will not campaign for my election. I will not solicit or accept campaign contributions, monetary or in-kind. I will not make campaign expenditures, including from personal funds.
3. If elected, I will not accept the office.
4. I understand that if I terminate my campaign; do not campaign for my election; do not solicit or accept campaign contributions, monetary or in-kind; do not make campaign expenditures, including from personal funds; and if elected, do not accept the office, the PDC will not conduct enforcement for my failure to file the reports required by RCW 42.17A.
5. I understand that if I win and accept the office, the PDC will conduct enforcement for failure to file reports required by RCW 42.17A.

Typed Name or Signature: 

Date Submitted or Signed: 6-5-17

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
PO BOX 40908
OLYMPIA WA 98504-0908

Email: pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov

KITTITAS SCHOOL DISTRICT 403 Position 1

Candidate	Vote	Vote %
Chad Johnson	570	
Total Votes (not including write-ins)	570	
Precinct Results »		

DATE FILED PDC

JAN 03 2018

1-3-18

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Chad Johnson

I want to retract my signing of the "Statement of Termination of Campaign For Public Discloser Commission Purpose Only" document for the 1st position for Kittitas School board district #403. This was a mistake, so many papers were coming in I didn't want this situation to happen by not filling out a paper. I took the oath on 12-20-17 to be on the board.

A question I have if this paper was filled on 6-5-17 how did I stay on the election ballet and why? I am sorry for the confusion and will file the correct forms ASAP. If there are any other questions please contact me at 509-899-4476.

Best regard,

Chad Johnson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.