



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Memorandum

To: Public Disclosure Commission

From: Jennifer Hansen, Compliance Officer

Date: September 15, 2025

Subject: Request from John A. McCarthy, Reporting Modification

Partial Modification – Background & Request:

- On June 18, 2025, the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) received a request from John A. McCarthy for redaction of information connected to his Personal Financial Affairs Statements (F-1 reports) submitted as a Port Commissioner for Port of Tacoma covering calendar years 2019 to 2024, disclosed pursuant to the filing requirements described in RCW 42.17A.710.
- As an elected official, John McCarthy submitted six annual F-1 reports electronically covering calendar years 2019 to 2024, all of which are available on the PDC website.
- In his request, Judge McCarthy states that prior to his current position with the Port of Tacoma, he served as a Superior Court Judge for more than 22 years. As part of his judicial duties, he sentenced individuals to life in prison or death. He explained that the Port of Tacoma has recently received anonymous public records requests seeking information about his communications and information about his family members.
- Staff informed Judge McCarthy about the ability to substitute a legal description for reportable real property on the F-1 report.
- John McCarthy's records would be exempt from public disclosure if the Commission finds in accordance with [RCW 42.17A.120](#) and [WAC 390-28-080](#) that disclosure of such information would present a personal risk to a reasonable person.

Applicable Laws & Rules:

[**RCW 42.17A.120**](#) Describes the commission's authority to suspend or modify any of the reporting requirements of this chapter if it finds that literal application of this chapter works a manifestly unreasonable hardship in a particular case and the suspension or modification will not frustrate the purposes of this chapter.

[**RCW 42.17A.710**](#) Describes the required content of each Personal Financial Affairs Statement submitted by candidates, elected officials or appointed officials.

[**WAC 390-24-200**](#) Describes the permissible methods to disclose real property on the Personal Financial Affairs Statement.