

Yakima County Prosecuting Attorney



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April 30, 2020

The Honorable Presiding Judge David A. Elofson Yakima County Superior Court 128 N 2nd Street Room 314 Yakima, WA 98901

Re: Statutory Priority for Hearing – In the Matter of the Recall of Jason White as City of Yakima District 2 Councilman

Dear Honorable Judge Elofson:

On or about April 30, 2020, the Prosecuting Attorney's Office anticipates filing a Summons and Petition to Determine Sufficiency of Recall Charges and for Approval of Ballot Synopsis in the above-referenced case. This letter is to call your attention to this matter because it is required by statute to be heard within fifteen (15) days of filing. RCW 29A.56.140.

This case involves charges by a voter(s) that the City of Yakima District 2 Councilman, Jason White, be recalled from office. Pursuant to RCW 29A.56.130, our office has prepared the ballot synopsis of the charges. The Prosecuting Attorney is directed to petition the superior court for a determination as to whether the charges are sufficient and for approval of the ballot synopsis. A hearing by the superior court must be conducted on the petition within fifteen (15) days of receipt. RCW 29A.56.140. This case will be filed in this court because the subject elected official resides in Yakima County.

Also, please note that RCW 29A.56.140 directs the clerk of the superior court to notify the persons subject to recall and the person(s) demanding recall of the hearing date. Because the statute specifically assigns this duty to the clerk, I will not be taking the more usual step of noting the matter for hearing.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

DON L. ANDERSON

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

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cc: David Briggs, Proponent

Elizabeth Hallock, Proponent¹

Jason White, City of Yakima District 2 Councilman

¹ Ms. Hallock is not a District 2 voter. See RCW 29A.56.110 and Art. 1 § 33 of the Washington State Constitution.