



FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

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December 27, 2013

Assembly Member Joan Buchanan
Buchanan for Assembly 2012 (1335063)

REDACTED

Warning Letter Re: FPPC Case No. 131330; Joan Buchanan / Buchanan for Assembly 2012

Dear Assembly Member Buchanan:

The Fair Political Practices Commission (the "FPPC") enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act"),¹ found in Government Code section 81000, et seq. This letter is in response to an audit report referred to us by the Franchise Tax Board. The audit covered the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012. A copy of the audit report is enclosed for your information.

The audit found that expenditures totaling \$48,900 were not disclosed as accrued expenses on the initial Preelection Statement filed for the period ending October 20, 2012. The Preelection Statement was amended on January 31, 2013, to disclose the accrued expenses. Section 82025 of the Act defines an expenditure as being made on the date payment is made or consideration is received, whichever is earlier. Section 84211 of the Act requires total expenditures to be reported in each campaign statement period.

The amount of the expenditures not timely disclosed as accrued expenses was not exceedingly large and were for expenses typically reported on campaign statements, such as, printing and postage. The Preelection Statement was amended when the committee learned of the expenses. You and your committee do not have a history of violations of the Act. Therefore, we have decided to close this case with a warning letter.

This letter serves as a written warning. The information in this matter will be retained and may be considered should an enforcement action become necessary based on newly

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code Sections 81000 through 91011. All statutory references are to the Government Code, unless otherwise indicated. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations. All regulatory references are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations, unless otherwise indicated.

discovered information or future conduct. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future will result in monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

A warning letter is an FPPC case resolution without administrative prosecution or fine. However, the warning letter resolution does not provide you with the opportunity for a probable cause hearing or hearing before an Administrative Law Judge or the FPPC. If you wish to avail yourself of these proceedings by requesting that your case proceed with prosecution rather than a warning, please notify us within ten (10) days from the date of this letter. Upon this notification, the FPPC will rescind this warning letter and proceed with administrative prosecution of this case. If we do not receive such notification, this warning letter will be posted on the FPPC's website ten (10) days from the date of this letter.

Please feel free to contact Program Specialist Robert Perna with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



REDACTED

Gary S. Winuk
Chief, Enforcement Division

Enclosure