



## FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329

(916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

January 10, 2014

Claudia Mercado

# REDACTED

### Warning Letter: Case No. 13/1215; Claudia Mercado

Dear Ms. Mercado:

The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (Act) contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014). This letter is in response to a non-filer enforcement referral from the FPPC's Technical Assistance Division. The FPPC has completed its investigation and found that you, as a member of the Osteopathic Medical Board, failed to properly file your Assuming Office or 2012 Annual Statement of Economic Interests (SEI) (Form 700) by August 17, 2012, and April 2, 2013, respectively.

Section 87300 of the Act requires every state and local agency to develop a Conflict of Interest Code. This Code must require persons who participate in the making of decisions which may foreseeably have a material financial effect on any financial interest belonging to that person to disclose reportable interests. Each newly designated employee shall file a statement within 30 days after assuming office. Throughout the duration of holding that office, the employee shall file an annual statement at the time specified in the Code. Lastly, every employee who leaves office shall file within 30 days of leaving office.

Your actions violated the Act because you failed to file the abovementioned statement by the specified deadline. However, since you are no longer in this position, we are closing your case with this warning letter. Although the FPPC is closing this case without seeking a penalty, you are still required to file all outstanding statements. Please contact your filing officer, David Test, at (916) 574-8367 for further information. Please note: any future non-filings will be brought to our attention and may result in monetary penalties. This warning letter may be considered should a future FPPC enforcement action become necessary.

A warning letter is an FPPC case resolution without administrative prosecution; however, this resolution does not provide you with the opportunity for a probable cause or administrative hearing. 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 days from the date of this letter. Upon this notification, the FPPC will rescind this warning letter and proceed with administrative prosecution of your case. If we do not receive such notification, this warning letter will be posted on the FPPC's website.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, contact Jaycob Byte! at (916) 322-7635.

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Gary S. Winuk

Chief, Enforcement Division

cc: Technical Assistance Division

