FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329
(916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

October 3, 2014

Melissa Baten Caswell
[redacted]

Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2014/0759; Melissa Baten Caswell, Respondent

Dear Ms. Caswell:

The Fair Political Practices Commission (the "FPPC") enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act"), contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014. As you may be aware, the FPPC's Enforcement Division (the "Division") was investigating whether you were in violation of the gift reporting provisions of the Act.

Under sections 87207 and 87302, public officials are required to report gifts that they receive from a single source when the gifts aggregate $50 or more in a calendar year. These gifts are to be reported on the official's relevant Statement of Economic Interests ("SEI" or "Form 700").

The Division has now completed its investigation of the facts in your case and found that, as a Governing Board Member of the Palo Alto Unified School District, you failed to timely report the following gift(s), given to you by Stone & Youngberg LLC:

Gift Description	Date Received	Value
Hosted Meal	December 2, 2010	$78.82
	Total for 2010:	**$78.82**

Gift Description	Date Received	Value
Hosted Meal	December 1, 2011	$99.81
	Total for 2011:	**$99.81**

Gift Description	Date Received	Value
Hosted Meal	November 29, 2012	$66.06
	Total for 2012:	**$66.06**

Your actions violated the Act because you failed to timely report the gifts noted above. However, since you do not have a significant history of violating the Act, and the gifts received

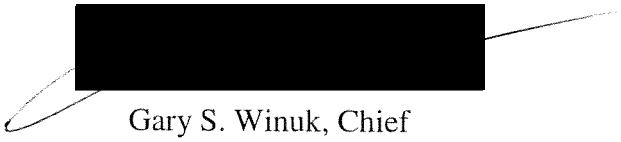
were not much over the $50 reporting threshold, we are closing your case with this warning letter. The information in this matter will be retained and may be considered should an enforcement action become necessary based on newly discovered information or future conduct. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future will result in monetary penalties of up to $5,000 for each violation.

Please note: *if you have not already filed amendment(s) to disclose the gift(s) identified above, as well as any other gifts you may have omitted, you are required to do so now.* You are only required to amend the schedule that needs to be revised; it is not necessary to refile the entire Form 700. Amendment schedules can be obtained from our website at www.fppc.ca.gov. Go to the Form 700 index and scroll to the bottom of the page to obtain prior year versions of the Form 700, and then select the amendment schedule for the applicable year.

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 Fair Political Practices Commission. 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 Robert Ashley at (916) 323-2689 or Rashley@fppc.ca.gov with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Gary S. Winuk, Chief
Enforcement Division