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

October 12, 2011

Jose Morales
Friends of Jose Morales
REDACTED

Maria Morales
Treasurer, Friends of Jose Morales
REDACTED

Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 11/908, Friends of Jose Morales; Maria Morales, Treasurer

Dear Ms. Morales and Mr. Morales:

The Fair Political Practices Commission ("FPPC") enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act ("Act"),[1] found in Government Code section 81000, et seq. This letter is in response to a complaint filed against the Friends of Jose Morales by the Registrar of Voters Office for San Joaquin County that alleged the Friends of Jose Morales failed to file a semiannual campaign disclosure statement.

The FPPC has completed its investigation of the facts in this case. Specifically, the FPPC found that the Friends of Jose Morales failed to file a semiannual campaign disclosure statement for the period of January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011 with the Registrar of Voters Office for San Joaquin County which was due on August 1, 2011. The failure to file with the Registrar of Votes Office for San Joaquin County was a violation of the Act.

The Act requires that candidates and their committees file campaign statements at periodic intervals. Specifically the Act provides that elected officers, candidates, and committees shall file

[1] The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014. 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.

semiannual statements. (Section 84200.) Friends of Jose Morales is obligated to continue filing campaign statements until the date it officially terminates.

Your action violated the Act because you failed to file your semiannual campaign statement by the filing deadline. However, because you have no prior violations of the Act and had minimal activity for the previous filing period, 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.

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.

Although the FPPC is not seeking a penalty in the current matter, you are still responsible for any late filing fees assessed by your filing officer. (Section 91013.) The FPPC publishes forms and manuals to facilitate compliance with the provisions of the Act. If you need forms or a manual, or guidance regarding your obligations, please call the FPPC's Technical Assistance Division at 1-866-275-3772. Please also visit our website at www.fppc.ca.gov.

Please feel free to contact Alisha Heilman at (916) 322-7486 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

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Gary S. Winuk
Chief, Enforcement Division

GSW:tf:ah