



December 20, 2018

Mr. Melton Wong
o/b/o Mountain View Professional Firefighters Political Action Committee

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Also sent via email at: [REDACTED]

Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2018-00516; Mountain View Professional Firefighters Political Action Committee and Melton Wong (ID#1229347)

Dear Committee and Mr. Wong:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This letter is in response to a referral from your filing officer the Secretary of State’s Office that alleged Mountain View Professional Firefighters Political Action Committee (the “Committee”) failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement in electronic format. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the matter. Specifically, we found that the Committee failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement in electronic format for the reporting period of July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 by the January 31, 2018 due date.

The Act requires committees to file semi-annual campaign statements each year no later than July 31 for the period ending June 30, and no later than January 31 for the period ending December 31.² The obligation to file semi-annual campaign statements continues until the candidate or treasurer terminates the committee. Committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.³ Additionally, the Act requires state candidates and state general purpose committees file statements in both electronic and paper format.⁴

Your actions violated the Act because you and the Committee failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement in electronic format for the reporting period of July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 by the January 31, 2018 due date. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than issue a fine because you and the

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014, and all statutory references are to this code. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, and all regulatory references are to this source.

² Section 84200

³ Sections 83116.5 and 91006

⁴ Section 84605

Committee filed the semi-annual campaign statement in paper format prior to the referral and contact by the Enforcement Division, you and the Committee filed the campaign statement in electronic format immediately after contact by the Enforcement Division, and the Committee was not active in any elections during the reporting period and had minimal reportable activity.

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 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 Enforcement Division 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 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 Enforcement Division 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 Commission's website ten (10) days from the date of this letter.

Please feel free to contact Chloe Hackert at (916) 322-8190 or chackert@fppc.ca.gov with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Galena West, Chief
Enforcement Division

GW/ch

cc: Secretary of State