
Re: Christopher Buttner's General Public Comments: FPPC Meeting of March 19, 2026

From Christopher Buttner [REDACTED]
Date Thu 3/19/2026 2:28 PM
To Davina Vo <davo@fppc.ca.gov>

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Good Afternoon Davina,

Updated statement for the record, as promised, follows:

Christopher Buttner's statement to the California Fair Political Practices Commission on March 19, 2026 in the matter of Calaveras County District 5 Supervisor Benjamin Stopper Case No: 2025-00042," in consideration of twelve probable cause findings – on July 21, 2025 – of Supervisor Stopper's presumed violations of the Political Reform Act.

Statement: "Good Morning Chairman Silver and Commissioners,

My name is Christopher Buttner, a Calaveras County resident.

Prior to my addressing a consequential matter appearing in the Executive Staff Reports of the FPPC's August 21, 2025 hearing – concerning case number 2025-00042 – I wish to acknowledge the Enforcement Division for diligence in investigating violations of the Political Reform Act.

Political Reform Act violations run rampant in Calaveras County, evidenced by my individually-filed complaints against four of the five County District Supervisors converting to four commission-initiated complaints and cases.

The timeliness of the vital work performed by the Enforcement Division is negatively impacted by the state's inadequate budgetary support of the FPPC.

Logic dictates the corollary of increasing the FPPC Enforcement Division budget would be a significant boost in enforcement stipulations collected, translating to increased revenue.

I am submitting letters of support on behalf of the FPPC to the State Assembly Budget Subcommittee 5 on State Administration, and the Senate Subcommittee 4 on State Administration and General Government, both now engaging in legislative budget hearings.

I respectfully address this Commission, specific to an open and pending case initiated by one of my complaints, urging the FPPC's expedited conclusion and case determination in the interest of minimizing harm to the community, in the matter of the 'Campaign Non-Filer' investigation of

"Stopper for Supervisor District 5 2018 and Benjamin Stopper Case No: 2025-00042," and in consideration of twelve probable cause findings – on July 21, 2025 – of Supervisor Stopper's presumed violations of the Political Reform Act.

District 5 Supervisor Stopper filed his intention on March 6th with the Calaveras Elections Office, seeking re-election on June 2nd for a third consecutive term.

I assert Supervisor Stopper has harmed the public's right to be informed about his potential [...]

Fair Political Practices Commission Chair Silver briefly paused Christopher Buttner's public comment to make the following statement: *"Mr. Buttner, I apologize for interrupting you there. Just to avoid potentially prejudicing the commissioners as to this open case, I'd recommend that if you have any additional information that you wish for the enforcement division – for the FPPC – to consider, that you reach out to the enforcement division – if you don't have their contact information, I believe they have yours, and they can follow up with you. As to your first comment, we greatly appreciate you highlighting the fact that we can always use greater resources. We do have the entire state as our jurisdiction, so we greatly appreciate you reaching out to the legislature and advocating on our behalf. You can go ahead."*

The outcome of the district 5 supervisor election on June 2, 2026 will be compromised should Supervisor Stopper win re-election while his FPPC case lingers, depriving voters the opportunity of an informed choice between recalcitrant District 5 Supervisor Stopper and his challengers.

Sufficient cause appears to exist for the Enforcement Division to levy substantial fines upon District 5 Supervisor Stopper, and to bar him from continuing to hold public office.

My name is Christopher Buttner. Thank you."

With Respect,

Christopher Buttner

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]