



(Approved June XX, 2026)

**CALIFORNIA FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF HEARING, Public Session¹
Thursday, May 14, 2026
10:00 a.m.**

Present: Chair Adam E. Silver, Commissioner Alf W. Brandt, Commissioner Elsa Ortiz, Commissioner E. Dotson Wilson

Executive Staff Present:

Galena West, Executive Director
Dave Bainbridge, General Counsel
Kendall L.D. Bonebrake, Chief of Enforcement
Shrdha Shah, Chief of Audits and Assistance
Jue Wang, PhD, Chief of Administration
Lindsey Nakano, Senior FPPC Legislative Counsel
Shery Yang, Communications Director

Call to Order.

Chair Silver called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

1. Public Comments for items not on the agenda.

Mr. Christopher Buttner made public comment. Mr. Scott Fischler made public comment.

Mr. Michael Ceremello made public comment.

2. Approval of March 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: To approve the March 2026 Meeting Minutes. Moved by Commissioner Ortiz, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion passed 4-0.

3-7. Consent Calendar

- 3. Adoption of Updated Form 803, Behested Payment Report, Instructions.**
- 4. In the Matter of County of Los Angeles County Fire Department; FPPC No. 21/292.**
- 5. In the Matter of John Valdivia; FPPC No. 22/396.**
- 6. In the Matter of James “Barrett” Reed, Jennifer Cooper, Monica Intaglietta, and Reed for Santa Barbara City Council 2021; FPPC No. 21/965.**
- 7. In the Matter of Antonia Jimenez; FPPC No. 22/673.**

MOTION: To approve the Consent Calendar. Moved by Chair Silver, seconded by Commissioner Brandt. The motion passed 4-0.

Pre-Notice Default.

- 8. In the Matter of Robert Scharffenberg; FPPC No. 24/787.**

9-13. General Items

- 9. Prenotice Discussion of Proposed Adoption of Regulation 18450.12 and Amendments to Regulation 18401, AI use in Campaign Advertisement Disclosure and Related Recordkeeping.**

Senior Commission Counsel Zachary Norton presented the item. Chair Silver stated his priority to amend the regulation to ensure clarity for the regulated community, Enforcement Division, and the public regarding what circumstances require a disclaimer and which do not. Commissioner Brandt stated that the legislature chose specific language for the statute. If the ad is entirely created by AI and appears authentic, it must include a disclosure.

Commissioner Ortiz acknowledged the complexity of this issue similar to the analysis of public mailers and why it is important to be clear on defining terms like “substantially

altered.” Chair Silver disclosed ex-parte communications with campaign consultants Bill Wong, Jaycob Bytel, and Kevin Reikes. Commissioner Wilson agreed with Commissioner Ortiz on the complexity of this issue and highlighted the importance of the FPPC having the staff resources to address these issues properly. Chair Silver recommended holding a Law & Policy Committee meeting before August to allow for feedback and engagement from the regulated community and to continue refining the regulation.

10. Prenotice Discussion of Proposed Adoption of Regulation 18420.5, Permitting Combined Campaign Reports.

Senior Commission Counsel Jenna Rinehart presented the item. Commissioner Wilson commended this regulation as it will provide more efficiency at all levels.

11. Legislative Update.

Senior FPPC Legislative Counsel Lindsey Nakano presented the item. Ms. Nakano clarified for Chair Silver that the Commission would be responsible for enforcing any violations of AB 1560 which would prohibit a person from acting as a lobbyist if the person has been convicted of a crime of public corruption. Chair Silver asked for more information regarding resources and access that FPPC will need to enforce this. Commissioner Brandt asked what is expected of the Enforcement penalties once an individual is found with a violation. Ms. Nakano clarified for Commissioner Wilson that the bill applies to felony convictions from any state or foreign government and establishes a 12-year period from the date of conviction. Ms. Nakano encouraged the Commission to support SB 1432 given that the bill was amended to include recommendations from FPPC staff.

MOTION: Motion to support SB 1432. Moved by Chair Silver, seconded by Commissioner Brandt. Approved 4-0.

12. Executive Staff Reports.

Chief Bonebrake presented the Enforcement Division Staff Report as submitted.

Chief of Audits Shrdha Shah presented the Audits and Assistance Division Staff Report as submitted.

General Counsel Bainbridge presented the Legal Division Staff Report and noted that the PREP division launched an advertising course, with one completion. He also mentioned the pre-election outreach program.

Chief of Administration Dr. Jue Wang presented the Administration and Technology Division Staff Report as submitted. Commissioner Wilson inquired about the reasons why an individual would file late. Dr. Wang stated there could be multiple reasons, but will work with education to further raise awareness regarding filing deadlines. Chair Silver stated it may be helpful to look at late filings from this most recent period and see if any additional comments were provided as to why they didn't file on time.

Executive Director West highlighted two staff members who are cross-training from the Legal and Enforcement divisions.

13. Commissioner Comments and Proposed Future Agenda Items.

Chair Silver requested further clarification on the burden of recordkeeping requirements imposed on regulated committees with respect to Item 9.

The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Davina Vo
Commission Assistant

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Adam E. Silver, Chair
Fair Political Practices Commission

ⁱ *Microsoft Co-Pilot assisted in creating these minutes. Content produced using Co-Pilot was reviewed for accuracy by Commission staff before publication.*