



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION  
1102 Q Street • Suite 3000 • Sacramento, CA 95811

November 16, 2021

Brandon Sywassink  
Via email: [brandon@manna-ranch.com](mailto:brandon@manna-ranch.com)

**Warning Letter: FPPC No. 2021-00910, Brandon Sywassink**

Dear Brandon Sywassink:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (“FPPC”) enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).<sup>1</sup> This letter is in response to a referral from the FPPC’s Statements of Economic Interests (“SEI”) Unit regarding your failure to file an amendment to your 2019 Annual SEI. The Enforcement Division found that as a result of your position as an Alternate Board Member for the Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission, the Act requires you to periodically file a SEI and that you failed to timely file your 2019 Annual SEI. In addition, you failed to submit a corrective amendment in response to the FPPC’s SEI Unit.

Section 87300 of the Act requires every state and local agency to develop a Conflict of Interest Code. This Code requires individuals who participate in making decisions which may foreseeably have a material financial effect on any financial interest belonging to that person to disclose all reportable interests on SEIs.<sup>2</sup> Individuals required to file SEIs, must file within 30 days of assuming office, annually thereafter at the time specified by the Code, and within 30 days of leaving office.<sup>3</sup>

You violated the Act by failing to file your 2019 Annual SEI by the June 1, 2020 deadline (the April 1 deadline was extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic) and failing to accurately identify the SEI as a 2019 Annual SEI instead of an Assuming Office SEI. But, for the following reasons, the Enforcement Division has decided to close your case with this warning letter rather than a fine: Your 2019 Annual SEI was filed only 22 days late; you have since filed a corrective amendment to the 2019 Annual SEI; and you have no prior Enforcement history.

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.

Although the Enforcement Division is closing this case without seeking a penalty, you are still required to file all outstanding SEIs and pay any late filing fees assessed by your filing officer.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Section 87302, subd. (b).

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

Please contact your filing officer, Cyndi Glaser, at [cglaser@fppc.ca.gov](mailto:cglaser@fppc.ca.gov) for further information about your required filings. Please note that any future non-filings will be brought to our attention and may result in monetary penalties. This warning letter may be considered should a future enforcement action become necessary.

A warning letter is an Enforcement Division case resolution without administrative prosecution or fine. The Commission has adopted Regulation 18360.1 to authorize the Enforcement Division to issue warning letters to conclude cases in specified circumstances. 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.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Tara Stock at [tstock@fppc.ca.gov](mailto:tstock@fppc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Angela J. Brereton*

Angela J. Brereton, Chief  
Enforcement Division

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