



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

June 14, 2022

Friends of Robert Cancio 2021 for NLMUSD School Board
Robert Cancio
Maria Johnson, Treasurer
[REDACTED]

Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2022-00441; Friends of Robert Cancio 2021 for NLMUSD School Board; Robert Cancio; Maria Johnson

Dear Mr. Cancio, Ms. Johnson, and Committee:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ As you are aware, the Enforcement Division received a referral from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder’s office alleging that you failed to timely “cross-file” a pre-election campaign statement with Los Angeles County.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the matter and found that you failed to file a copy of the pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2022 through April 23, 2022, by the April 28, 2022 deadline, with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder’s office.

The Act requires candidate-controlled committees to file two pre-election campaign statements prior to the applicable election, as well as semi-annual campaign statements until the committee terminates.² Additionally, when an individual is simultaneously a candidate for state elective office and local elective office (or an officeholder), they must file campaign statements for all committees they control with both jurisdictions. The candidate or elected officer shall file the originally signed campaign statement with the relevant jurisdiction and shall file a copy of the campaign statement with the other location(s).³ Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.⁴

You violated the Act by failing to timely file a copy of the pre-election campaign statement with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder’s office by the April 28, 2022 deadline. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with a warning letter rather than a fine because you timely filed the pre-election campaign statement with the Secretary of State, and you filed a copy of the pre-election campaign statement with the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters office immediately after you were contacted by the Enforcement Division. Additionally, you have

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014 and all statutory references are to this code.

² Sections 84200 and 84200.5.

³ Regulation 18405, subdivision (b).

⁴ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.

no history of violating the Act. Please note that while the Enforcement Division is closing this matter without a monetary penalty, your filing official, Los Angeles County, may assess a late filing penalty.

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. 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.

Please feel free to contact Tara Stock at tstock@fppc.ca.gov or (916) 322-8241 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Angela J. Brereton

Angela J. Brereton, Chief
Enforcement Division

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