



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

June 23, 2022

Mark D. Melville for San Mateo County Sheriff 2018

Mark Melville, Candidate

Sari Ditlevsen, Treasurer

Rosie McNeilly, Treasurer

Via email: [REDACTED]

**Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2019-01725; Mark D. Melville for San Mateo County Sheriff 2018, Mark Melville, Sari Ditlevsen, and Rosie McNeilly**

Dear Mr. Melville, Ms. Ditlevsen, and Ms. McNeilly:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).<sup>1</sup> As you are aware, the Enforcement Division identified that Mark D. Melville for San Mateo County Sheriff 2018 (ID# 1397757) (the “Committee”)<sup>2</sup> failed to timely file certain campaign statements.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that the Committee failed to timely file an amendment to its statement of organization to report the Committee’s date of qualification and two semi-annual campaign statements for the reporting periods of January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017 and July 1, 2018 to August 15, 2018, by the respective due dates.

The Act requires candidate controlled committees to timely file an amendment to its statement of organization to report the committee’s date of qualification within 10 days of qualifying.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, the Act requires candidate controlled committees to timely 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.<sup>4</sup>

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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> Sari Ditlevsen served as the Committee’s treasurer from establishment to March 7, 2018. Rosie McNeilly served as the Committee’s treasurer from March 8, 2018 to termination.

<sup>3</sup> Sections 84101 and 84103.

<sup>4</sup> Section 84200.

The Committee's actions violated the Act because it failed to timely file an amendment to its statement of organization and semi-annual campaign statements as discussed above. However, the Enforcement Division has determined that further enforcement action on these violations is not warranted, since the public harm was minimal. The Committee late-filed the relevant statements prior to the election, had less than \$2,000 of activity for those reporting periods, the controlling candidate was unsuccessful, the Committee has since terminated, and neither you nor the Committee have a prior history of violating the Act.

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 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 days from the date of this letter.

If you need forms or a manual, or guidance regarding your obligations, please call the Commission's Toll-Free Advice Line at 1-866-275-3772 or visit our website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov).

Please feel free to contact me at [JRinehart@fppc.ca.gov](mailto:JRinehart@fppc.ca.gov) with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

*Jenna Rinehart*

Jenna C. Rinehart,  
Commission Counsel  
Enforcement Division