



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

July 13, 2022

Laura Hoffmeister for Concord City Council 2022

Laura Hoffmeister



Warning Letter: FPPC No. 2022-00183; Laura Hoffmeister for Concord City Council 2022, Hoffmeister

Dear Committee and Laura Hoffmeister:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (“FPPC”) enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ As you are aware, the Enforcement Division received a referral from the City of Concord regarding your committee’s failure to timely file the semi-annual campaign statements for the reporting periods of July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021, and July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that you failed to timely file the semi-annual campaign statements for the reporting periods of July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021, and July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 by the February 1, 2021, August 2, 2021, and January 31, 2022 due dates, respectively.

The Act requires candidate-controlled committees to file two pre-election campaign statements prior to the applicable election, and 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 31.² The obligation to file semi-annual campaign statements continues until the candidate or treasurer terminates the committee. Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.³

Your actions violated the Act because you failed to timely file the semi-annual campaign statements by the February 1, 2021, August 2, 2021, and January 31, 2022 due dates. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than a fine because the committee had zero reportable activity on the campaign statements, during the time the campaign statements were due to be filed the Committee’s treasurer experienced medical issues and has since passed away, and all outstanding statements have now been filed.

¹ 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.

² Sections 84200 and 84200.5

³ Sections 83116.5 and 91006

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.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Amber Rodriguez at (916) 322-1198 or arodriguez@fppc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Angela J. Brereton

Angela J. Brereton, Chief
Enforcement Division

AJB:ar