



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

January 18, 2023

Blanca Gomez

Blanca Gomez for Victor Valley Community College Governing Board 2

Candidate, Victor Valley Community College District Member, Governing Board Area 2

Warning Letter re: FPPC No. 2023-00046, Gomez

Dear Ms. Gomez:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ As you are aware, in response to the Enforcement Division’s pre-election outreach program, we were made aware by the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters that you failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement in connection with the November 8, 2022 election.

The Act requires candidate-controlled committees to file two pre-election campaign statements prior to the election in which the candidate is listed on the ballot.² For the period ending 45 days before the election, the statement shall be filed no later than 40 days before the election.³ The Act generally permits a candidate who receives and spends less than \$2,000 to file a Form 470 (Campaign Short Form) by the first pre-election campaign statement deadline.⁴ However, a candidate with an open candidate-controlled committee(s) may not file Form 470. Instead, the “office sought” must be disclosed on the Cover Page – Part 2 (section 5) of the candidate-controlled committee(s) Form 460(s).

You violated the Act because you failed to file your pre-election campaign statements for your candidacy as a Governing Board Member for the Victor Valley Community College District by the September 29, 2022 deadline. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close your case with this warning letter rather than a fine for the following reasons: you were referred as part of the proactive pre-election outreach program; you filed the pre-election campaign statements soon after you were contacted by the Enforcement Division and well before the election, you were an unsuccessful candidate, and you have not had a prior violation of this section. Please note that while the Enforcement Division is closing this matter without a fine, your filing officer, the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters, may assess late filing penalties.

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

² Section 84200.5.

³ Section 84200.8, subd. (a).)

⁴ Sections 84206 and 84200.8; Regulation 18406.

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 questions, please contact Amber Rodriguez at arodriguez@fppc.ca.gov or (916) 322-1198.

Sincerely,

Angela J. Brereton

Angela J. Brereton, Chief
Enforcement Division

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