



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

January 10, 2023

United Faculty of Contra Costa Community College District PAC
Evangeline Ward, Treasurer
Katrina Keating, Former Treasurer
Via email: UF@UF4CD.ORG

Warning Letter re: FPPC No. 2020-00977, United Faculty of Contra Costa Community College District PAC; Keating

Dear Committee, Ms. Ward, and Ms. Keating:

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 sworn complaint alleging that you violated the campaign disclosure provisions of the Act. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case and found that you failed to timely file the first pre-election campaign statements in connection with the March 3, 2020 Primary Election and the November 3, 2020 General Election, and failed to file the semi-annual campaign statement for the period ending June 30, 2020. Additionally, you failed to timely file eight 24-hour reports (Form 497).

The Act requires recipient committees, including general purpose committees, to 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 31.² The obligation to file semi-annual campaign statements continues until the treasurer terminates the committee. In addition, if the committee makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling \$500 or more to support or oppose a candidate or measure appearing on the ballot during the pre-election reporting period, it must file pre-election statements.³ The Act also requires a general purpose committee that makes a contribution(s) totaling \$1,000 or more to a candidate, candidate controlled committee, or a committee primarily formed to support or oppose a candidate or measure within 90 days before the election, or on the date of the election, to file a Form 497 within 24 hours of making of the contribution.⁴

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 Section 84200.

³ Section 84200.5(a)(3).

⁴ Sections 82036 and 84203.

You violated the Act by failing to file the first pre-election campaign statements in connection with the March 3, 2020 Primary Election and the November 3, 2020 General Election by the applicable deadlines, and failing to file the semi-annual campaign statement for the period ending June 30, 2020 by the July 31, 2020 deadline. You also violated the Act by failing to file Form 497 for several contributions made of \$1,000 or more. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than a fine for the following reasons: you filed the statements and reports immediately after you became aware of the issue and before you were contacted by the Enforcement Division; the contributions of \$1,000 or more were disclosed by the recipients of the contributions; the statements and reports filed in connection with the November 3, 2020 General Election were filed before the election; you explained that the Committee's treasurer was having medical issues leading up to the deadlines; and, you have no history of violating the Act. Please note that while the Enforcement Division is closing this matter without a fine, your filing officer, the Secretary of State, may assess late filing penalties.

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 Tara Stock at tstock@fppc.ca.gov or (916) 322-8241.

Sincerely,

Angela J. Brereton

Angela J. Brereton, Chief
Enforcement Division

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