



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

December 13, 2022

Melissa Fox
Melissa Fox for County Central Committee 2020
Sent Via Email: melissa@melissafoxlaw.com

Gary Crummitt
Melissa Fox for County Central Committee 2020
Sent Via Email: gary@crummittandassociates.com

Warning Letter Re: FPPC Case No. 2018/00784; In the Matter of Melissa Fox for County Central Committee 2020, Melissa Fox, Gary Crummitt and Christina Shea

Dear Melissa Fox, Gary Crummitt and Melissa Fox for County Central Committee 2020,

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This letter is in response to the above referenced case against Melissa Fox, Gary Crummitt and the candidate-controlled committee Melissa Fox for County Central Committee 2020 (“Committee”).

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, the Enforcement Division investigated a suspected earmarked contribution received by the Committee in 2017. However, there is insufficient evidence to support a finding that you violated the Act as to the earmarking allegation. The investigation found that the Committee failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018 by the July 31, 2018 deadline and failed to timely disclose the names and addresses of all payees on Schedule G of the statement.

The Act requires 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

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.

December 31.² Further, the Committee must report expenditures, including the names and addresses as well as a description of the expenditure.³

Your actions violated the Act because you and the Committee failed to timely file the above referenced semi-annual campaign statement by the required due date and failed to timely disclose the names and addresses of four expenditures, totaling \$2,592.94. However, mitigating evidence exists such that the Enforcement Division has elected to close this case with this warning letter: the Committee filed the semi-annual campaign statement 1 day late, the campaign statement was over 1 year prior to the relevant election, the expenditures were reported on Schedule E, the Committee has since terminated and the Committee has no prior enforcement history.

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 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. Please feel free to contact me at bcastillo@fppc.ca.gov and (916)324-8787 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Bridgette Castillo

Bridgette Castillo

² Section 84200.

³ Section 84211.

Senior Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division