



September 6, 2023

Jill Barto
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Warning Letter re: FPPC No. 2019-01414; Jill Barto

Dear Jill Barto,

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act¹ (the “Act”). This letter is in response to a sworn complaint alleging you violated the Act’s Statement of Economic Interest (“SEI”) disclosure provisions by failing to report accurately gifts on your Annual SEIs.

The Enforcement Division found that as a result of your position as a Governing Board Member of Cajon Valley Union School District the Act required you to periodically file Statements of Economic Interest (“SEI”) and that you failed to accurately disclose reportable gifts received.

Section 87200 of the Act requires certain public officials, including public officials who manage public investments to disclose reportable interests, including income and gifts received during the reporting period required by the SEI.² When the income received is in the form of a gift, the Act requires the filer to disclose the amount of the gift and the date the gift was received.³

Specifically, when the event is an invitation only event, the admission value of the benefit received by an official and one guest who attend an invitation-only event, is the official's and the guest's pro-rata share of the cost of the food, catering services, entertainment, and any item provided to the official and guest that is available to all guests attending the event.⁴

While you reported receiving a gift from Dale Scott and Company as well as Keenan and Association on your 2018 and 2019 SEIs, your actions violated the Act because you failed to report the accurate amount of the gifts under the valuation method provided from in Regulation 18946.2. However, the aggregate value of the gifts was minimal, you are no longer in office, and have no prior Enforcement history for this type of violation. Based on the foregoing, and in accordance with the Enforcement Division Policy Directives formally adopted by the Commission on January 26, 2023, which requires the Enforcement Division to take all appropriate actions within their discretion to decrease the Division’s annual carryover caseload, the Enforcement Division is closing this case with this warning

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 18104 through 18998 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, and all regulatory references are to this source.

² Sections 87200, 87202-87204

³Section 87207, subdivision (a)(3).

⁴ Regulation 18946

letter.⁵ Discretion was used based upon mitigating or aggravating circumstances and the totality of the circumstances.⁶ This resolution may not be used as a comparable case for other enforcement matters.⁷

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.

Although the Enforcement Division is closing this case without seeking a penalty, you are still required to amend all outstanding SEIs and pay any late filing fees assessed by your filing officer. Please contact your filing officer for further information. Any future non-filings may result in monetary penalties and this warning letter may be considered in any future enforcement actions.

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 me at mcorona@fppc.ca.gov or 916-322-5772.

Sincerely,

Marissa Corona

Marissa Corona
Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

Cc: Complainant, Naomie Rodrigues, rodriguesn@cajonvalley.net

⁵ <https://www.fppc.ca.gov/content/dam/fppc/NS/Documents/AgendaDocuments/General%20Items/2023/january/15.0-Enforcement-directives.pdf>

⁶ Regulations 18360.1 and 18360.3.

⁷ See Regulation 18361.5, subdivision (e)(3).