



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
1102 Q Street • Suite 3050 • Sacramento, CA 95811

September 11, 2023

Tina Medina for Raisin City School Board 2018

Tina Medina for Raisin City School Board 2022

Tina Medina and Kim Cooper



Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2021-00044, Tina Medina, Kim Cooper, Tina Medina for Raisin City School Board 2018 and Tina Medina for Raisin City School Board 2022

Dear Respondents:

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 referrals submitted by Fresno County alleging that Tina Medina for Raisin City School Board 2018 (the “2018 Committee”) and Tina Medina for Raisin City School Board 2022 (the “2022 Committee”) violated the Act’s campaign disclosure provisions. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the matter and found that the 2018 Committee and the 2022 Committee failed to timely file several pre-election and semi-annual campaign statements, by their applicable deadlines.

The Act requires candidate-controlled committees to file two pre-election campaign statements at specified times prior to the election in which the candidate will be on the ballot, as well as 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.³ Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.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 18104 through 18998 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, and all regulatory references are to this source.

² Sections 84200.5 and 84200.

³ Section 84214 and Regulation 18404.

⁴ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.

The 2018 Committee violated the Act by failing to timely file two pre-election campaign statements and seven semi-annual campaign statements, by the applicable deadlines. Additionally, the 2022 Committee violated the Act by failing to timely file two pre-election campaign statements and one semi-annual campaign statement, by the applicable deadlines. However, the 2022 Committee filed the pre-election statements before the relevant election, the 2018 Committee filed most of the statements after receiving contact from the Enforcement Division, there was minimal activity to disclose on each statement, there was a low level of activity by both committees, and the candidate and Committees have no prior enforcement history. 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 letter.⁵ Discretion was used based upon mitigating or aggravating circumstances and the totality of the circumstances.⁶ Additionally, discretion was used for violations that caused minimal public harm when lack of experience or knowledge of the Act's requirements caused multiple violations with minimal public harm that were corrected upon contact and the committee raised and spent less than \$10,000.⁷ This resolution may not be used as a comparable case for other enforcement matters.⁸

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.

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 Regulation 18360.2.

⁸ See Regulation 18361.5, subdivision (e)(3).

Please feel free to contact me at 916-738-6411 or jrivera@fppc.ca.gov with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Rivera

Jonathan Rivera, Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

cc: Fresno County