



January 27, 2023

Kings County Elections Department
Via email: Lupe.Villa@co.kings.ca.us

Warning Letter re: FPPC No. 2023-00086; Kings County Elections Department

Dear Kings County Elections Department:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (“FPPC”) enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This letter is in response to a complaint filed against you alleging that you violated the filing officer duties of the Act. The complaint alleges that you failed to redact street addresses from campaign statements that were posted online, and that you failed to maintain a current and accurate list of committee names on the Department’s website.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that you failed to redact street addresses from several campaign statements that were posted online, and you failed to list the current committee name for several committees.

The Act requires local government agencies to post campaign statements filed in paper format to the agency’s website within 72 hours of the applicable filing deadline.² Local government agencies are also required to redact the street name and building number of the persons or entity representatives listed on any statement, report, or document, or any bank account number required to be disclosed by the filer, before posting the statement on the Internet.³ Additionally, the Act requires filing officers to compile and maintain a current list of all reports and statements filed with the agency and all those actually filed with the agency.⁴

You violated the Act because you failed to redact multiple street addresses from campaign statements that were posted online, and you failed to list the current/correct committee name for several committees. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than a fine because you redacted the street addresses and corrected the committee names soon after you were contacted by the Enforcement Division, and you have no history of violating the Act.

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.

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 84616.

³ Section 84616.

⁴ Section 81010; Regulation 18115.

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 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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