



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

March 16, 2023

Khalid Chaudhry
[REDACTED]

Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2018-01275; Khalid Chaudhry

Dear Khalid Chaudhry:

After an investigation, the Enforcement Division is closing its file in this matter with a streamline penalty for failure to timely file one 24-hour independent expenditure report and failure to include the proper advertising disclosure on an ad distributed prior to the November 6, 2018 General Election, as publicly noticed at the March 2023 Commission meeting and the warning letter as discussed below.

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”). This letter is in response to an Anthony Duhon complaint against you and your committee, alleging that you failed to include the proper advertising disclosures on several ads. The Enforcement Division found that you failed to timely file two independent expenditure campaign statements for the reporting periods ending on June 30, 2018 and December 31, 2018. Furthermore, the ads sent prior to the November 6, 2018 General Election were in the incorrect format by missing the printed or drawn box.

The Act requires independent expenditure committees to file 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, if they have made contributions or independent expenditures, including payments to a slate mailer organization, during the six-month period before the closing date of the statements.¹ Furthermore, the disclosure area shall have a solid white background and shall be in a printed or drawn box on the bottom of at least one page that is set apart from any other printed matter. All text in the disclosure area shall be in contrasting color and centered horizontally in the disclosure area.²

¹ Section 84200.

² Section 84504.2.

But, for the following reasons, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than a fine: the Committee had minimal activity, Chaudhry has a low level of experience with the Act, the ads in question were for a recall that did not qualify for the ballot, 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 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.

Please feel free to contact Alex Rose at arose@fppc.ca.gov or 916- 327-6358 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex J. Rose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alex J. Rose, Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division