



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

May 8, 2023

Arnoldo S. Torres
Torres 2 Policy Consultants
[REDACTED]

Re: Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2019-01772, In the Matter of Torres 2 Policy Consultants and Arnoldo S. Torres

Dear Respondents:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (“Commission”) enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This letter is in response to an anonymous complaint alleging that you, Arnoldo S. Torres, failed to register as a lobbyist and that you and the lobbying firm, Torres 2 Policy Consultants, failed to timely file lobbying reports. After an investigation, the Enforcement Division determined that violations of the Act did occur but is resolving this matter with this letter.

The Act requires lobbyists and lobby firms to register and to file quarterly reports.² The Enforcement Division’s investigation determined that Torres failed to timely register as a lobbyist in 2018. Specifically, while Torres submitted paperwork to the Secretary of State, the paperwork was rejected twice as being incomplete and Torres did not make final corrections to the paperwork to be properly registered. In addition, Torres and the lobbying firm, Torres 2 Policy Consultants, failed to timely file quarterly reports. In mitigation, Torres attempted to register but errors such as, lack of an original signature of a lobbying employer, kept the registration from being approved. In addition, the lobbying employers reported the activity so there was some disclosure of the lobbying activity. In further mitigation, since Torres was contacted by the Enforcement Division in 2019, Torres has been current on all subsequent reports and has filed the late reports. Torres has 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,

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 86101, 86113, and 86114.

the Enforcement Division is closing this case with this warning letter.³ In addition, discretion was used based upon mitigating or aggravating circumstances and the totality of the circumstances.⁴ This resolution may not be used as a comparable case for other enforcement matters.⁵

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 yourselves of these proceedings by requesting that your case proceed with prosecution rather than a warning, please notify us within ten 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 days from the date of this letter.

If you need forms or a manual, or guidance regarding their 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 tgilbertson@fppc.ca.gov or (916) 323-6421 (voicemail) with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Theresa Gilbertson
Senior Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

³ <https://www.fppc.ca.gov/content/dam/fppc/NS-Documents/AgendaDocuments/General%20Items/2023/january/15.0-Enforcement-directives.pdf>

⁴ Regulation 18360.1.

⁵ See Regulation 18361.5, subdivision (e)(3).