



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

November 17, 2023

Committee to Elect Robert Ocampo Board Member, Alisal Union Elementary School, District Area 2 2022

Robert Ocampo

Sandra Ocampo, Treasurer



Warning Letter re: FPPC No. 2023-00036; Ocampo, Committee to Elect Robert Ocampo Board Member, AUESD, Area 2 (2022), Robert Ocampo, Sandra Ocampo

Dear Committee, Robert Ocampo, and Sandra Ocampo:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (“FPPC”) enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ As you are aware, in response to the Enforcement Division’s pre-election outreach program, we were made aware by the Monterey County Elections Office that you failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement in connection with the November 8, 2022 election. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that you failed to timely file both pre-election campaign statements, and two 24-hour contribution reports (Form 497).²

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 31.³ The Act also requires candidate-controlled committees that receive a contribution(s), including from the candidate’s personal funds, totaling \$1,000 or more from a single source within 90 days before the election, or on the date of the election, to file a 24-hour report within 24 hours of receipt of the contribution.⁴ Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.⁵

Your actions violated the Act because you failed to timely file the first and second pre-election campaign statements by the specified deadlines. You also violated the Act by failing to file a 24-hour contribution report for a contribution received totaling \$4,000 from the candidate’s personal funds on August 25, 2022, and failing to timely file a 24-hour contribution report for a contribution

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 Additionally, we found that three contributions from individual contributors were disclosed without the required occupation and employer information. However, amendments were later filed to disclose the occupation and employer information for the individuals.

³ Sections 84200.5 and 84200.

⁴ Sections 82036 and 84203.

⁵ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.

received totaling \$2,170 on September 30, 2022. *A streamline stipulation was approved regarding the violation for failing to timely file a 24-hour contribution report triggered by the contribution received on September 30, 2022.* The violations for failing to timely file the first and second pre-election statements, and failing to file a 24-hour contribution report triggered by a contribution from the candidate's personal funds, are being resolved with this warning letter rather than a fine for the following reasons: you were referred as part of the pre-election outreach program; you filed the pre-election campaign statements soon after you were contacted by the Enforcement Division; you filed the pre-election campaign statements before the election; the contribution that triggered the 24-hour contribution report was a contribution from the candidate's personal funds; 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.

Please note that while the Enforcement Division is closing this matter without a fine, your filing officer may assess late filing penalties. Finally, we note that a separate violation regarding late-filed pre-election campaign statements and one 24-hour contribution report was resolved via a streamline settlement approved at the November 16, 2023 Commission meeting.

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.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Amber Rodriguez at arodriguez@fppc.ca.gov or (916) 322-1198.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Burton

Christopher B. Burton, Assistant Chief
Enforcement Division

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