



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

February 29, 2024

Gary Winuk

o/b/o North STAR – Safety, Accountability, Transparency & Responsibility, Sponsored by
the Paskenta Band of Nomalki Indians

Robb Korinke

Via email: gwinuk@kaufmanlegalgroup.com

**Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2024-00296; North STAR – Safety, Accountability,
Transparency & Responsibility, Sponsored by the Paskenta Band of Nomalki Indians,
and Robb Korinke**

Dear Gary Winuk:

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 the sworn complaint you submitted to self-report a violation of the advertisement disclaimer provisions of the Act on behalf of North STAR – Safety, Accountability, Transparency & Responsibility, Sponsored by the Paskenta Band of Nomalki Indians, and Robb Korinke.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this matter. Specifically, we found that your clients sent a mailer advertisement that failed to include, as part of the required disclaimer, that the advertisement was “not authorized” by a candidate or candidate-controlled committee.

Under the Act, a mailer advertisement supporting or opposing a candidate that is paid for by an independent expenditure must include a disclaimer that provides specific information, including a statement that the advertisement was “not authorized” by a candidate or candidate-controlled committee.²

Your clients violated the Act by failing to include on a mailer advertisement a statement that the advertisement was “not authorized” by a candidate or candidate-controlled committee. However, for the following reasons, we are closing this matter with a warning letter rather than a fine: you self-reported the violation to the Enforcement Division on behalf of your clients, your clients have no prior Enforcement history, and the disclaimer included on the mailer included the rest of the information required by the Act. Based on the foregoing, and in accordance with the

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 Section 84504.2, subdivision (a).

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.³ 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 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 Vanessa Greer at vgreer@fppc.ca.gov or 279-237-5965 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

James M. Lindsay

James M. Lindsay, Chief
Enforcement Division

JML: vg

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

⁴ Regulations 18360.1 and 18360.3.

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