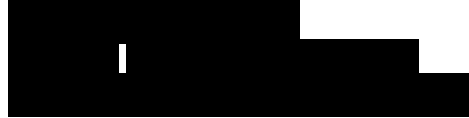




STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
1102 Q Street • Suite 3050 • Sacramento, CA 95811

July 31, 2024

Megan Irvine for Fountain Valley School Board 2022
Megan Irvine



Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2023-00441; Megan Irvine for Fountain Valley School Board 2022, Megan Irvine

Dear Respondent,

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This letter is in response to an anonymous complaint alleging that the committee, Megan Irvine for Fountain Valley School Board 2022 (the “Committee”), failed to timely file certain pre-election campaign statements. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that the Committee failed to timely file the first pre-election campaign statement, two semi-annual campaign statements, and two 24-hour contribution reports.

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 31.² The obligation to file semi-annual campaign statements continues until the candidate or treasurer terminates the committee. Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.³ Additionally, the Act requires committees that make or receive a late contribution to file a late contribution report within 24 hours of making or receiving the contribution.⁴ A “late contribution” includes a contribution(s) aggregating \$1,000 or more that is made to or received by a committee primarily formed to support a candidate within 90 days

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 Sections 84200.5 and 84200.

³ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.

⁴ Section 84203.

before the date of the election, or on the date of the election, in which the pertinent candidate is to be voted on.⁵

Your actions violated the Act because the Committee failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement by the September 29, 2022 deadline and two semi-annual campaign statements by the applicable deadlines. Additionally, the Committee failed to file two timely Form 497s within 24 hours of receiving a contribution of \$1,000 or more by the applicable deadlines. However, we are closing this case with this warning letter because the violations at issue here caused minimal public harm, there was very little activity to report, you were an unsuccessful candidate, the Committee has since terminated, and you and the Committee have no prior 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.

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 your client with the opportunity for a probable cause hearing or hearing before an Administrative Law Judge or the Commission. If your client wishes to avail himself of these proceedings by requesting that his 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 need forms or a manual, or guidance regarding your 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 jrivera@fppc.ca.gov or (279) 237-5913 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Rivera

Jonathan Rivera, Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

⁵ Section 82036.