



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

July 16, 2024

Jessica Shewmaker for City Council (District 3) 2020
Jessica Shewmaker for School Board 2013
Jessica Shewmaker and
Caryn Shewmaker
Via email: [REDACTED]

Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2021-00596, Jessica Shewmaker for City Council (District 3) 2020, Jessica Shewmaker for School Board 2013, Jessica Shewmaker and Caryn Shewmaker

Dear Respondents:

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 referrals from Los Angeles County alleging that the committees, Jessica Shewmaker for City Council (District 3) 2020 (the “City Committee”) and Jessica Shewmaker for School Board 2013 (the “School Committee”), failed to timely file several pre-election campaign statements. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that the City Committee failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement as well as a semi-annual campaign statement. and that the School Committee failed to timely file a statement of organization, two semi-annual campaign statements, and two pre-election statements.

The Act requires candidates-controlled committees to file an amendment within 10 days if there is a change in any of the information contained in a statement of organization.² For local candidate-controlled committees, the original Form 410 must be filed with the Secretary of State and a copy must be filed with the local filing officer.³ The Act also 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 31.⁴ The obligation to file semi-annual campaign statements continues until

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 84103.

³ Id.

⁴ Sections 84200.5 and 84200.

the candidate or treasurer terminates the committee. Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.⁵

Your actions violated the Act because the City Committee failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement as well as a semi-annual campaign statement by the applicable deadlines. Additionally, the School Committee failed to timely file a statement of organization, two semi-annual campaign statements, and two pre-election statements by the applicable deadlines. However, because you and the Committees have no prior history of violating the Act, all of the pre-election statements were filed before the relevant election, the City Committee has since terminated, you were unsuccessful as a candidate, and there was little activity to report, we are closing this case with a Warning Letter.

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 me at 279-237-5913 or jrivera@fppc.ca.gov with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Rivera

Jonathan Rivera, Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

cc: Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder cfd@rrcc.lacounty.gov

⁵ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.