



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

April 17, 2024

Steve Ferguson

[REDACTED]
Via Email: [REDACTED]

Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2022-00711, Steve Ferguson

Dear Steve Ferguson,

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 the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk that you failed to timely file an Officeholder/Candidate Campaign Short Form (“Form 470”) for the reporting period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the matter and found that you failed to timely file a Form 470 by the applicable deadline.

The Act requires Candidate Controlled Committees to file 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 Act allows candidate and officeholders who receive contributions and make expenditures of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in a calendar year to file a Form 470 covering the entire calendar year with the local elections office by July 31.³

You violated the Act because you failed to timely file an Officeholder Campaign Short Form 470 by the July 31, 2022, deadline. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than a fine because: the failure to timely file the campaign statement was of minimal public harm; the total activity untimely reported on the campaign statements amounts to \$0 in contributions and expenditures; and the Form 470 was not in connection with an election. Therefore, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with a warning letter.

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 84200

³ Sections 84200, 84206, and 84215.

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 279-237-3766 or cfelkins@fppc.ca.gov with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Felkins

Michael C. Felkins, Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division