



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

October 25, 2024

Sage G. Rafferty

Via email: sageforwater@gmail.com

Warning Letter re: FPPC Case No. 2023-00025; Sage G. Rafferty

Dear Sage G. Rafferty:

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 a referral from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk ("L.A. County") that alleged you failed to timely file a candidate intention statement (Form 501) prior to establishing your committee Sage Rafferty for Water Board 2022 (the "Committee"). The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the matter and found that you failed to timely file a required candidate intention statement in advance of the November 8, 2022 General Election, as alleged in the referral.

Under the Act, a candidate for state or local office must file a candidate intention statement for each election prior to soliciting or receiving any contributions or making expenditures from personal funds on behalf of their candidacy.² An individual who intends to run for local office must file the candidate intention statement with the same filing officer as they would file original campaign statements.

The Committee filed a pre-election campaign statement with L.A. County for the reporting period ending September 24, 2022, disclosing \$4,847 in contributions. Therefore, a candidate intention statement was owed. However, you violated the Act by failing to timely file the candidate intention statement. However, mitigating evidence exists such that the Enforcement Division has elected to close this case with this warning letter rather than seek a fine: your election bid was unsuccessful, you filed the missing form in January 2023, and you 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.

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 Section 85200.

A warning letter is an Enforcement Division case resolution without administrative prosecution or fine. The Commission has adopted Regulations 18360.1 and 18360.2 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 cburton@fppc.ca.gov or (279) 237-3769 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Burton

Christopher B. Burton
Assistant Chief of Enforcement
Fair Political Practices Commission