



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

June 9, 2025

Democratic Club of Moreno Valley

Via email: demclubofmoval1992@gmail.com

Warning Letter re: FPPC Case No. 2025-00652; Democratic Club of Moreno Valley.

Dear Respondent:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ As you are aware, the Enforcement Division received two complaints related to a certain text message advertisement sent by the committee, Democratic Club of Moreno Valley, in support of Ruth Self Williams’ (“Williams”) candidacy, during the November 3, 2020 election. The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the matter and found that you failed to include the proper disclaimer on a text message advertisement disseminated.

The Act requires text message advertisements paid for by a committee, other than a candidate-controlled committee, to include the words “Paid for by” or “With” followed by either the name of the committee or a hyperlink for an internet website containing the required disclosures.²

You violated the Act by sending a text message advertisement that did not contain the required disclaimer language. However, for the following reasons, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than a fine: the relevant text message advertisement included an abbreviated version of the Committee’s name and a hyperlink to Williams’ campaign website, which contained a “Paid for by” disclaimer; Williams’ candidacy was unsuccessful; the violation caused minimal public harm; Williams timely disclosed the receipt of these non-monetary contributions on campaign statements filed prior to the election; you timely disclosed these advertisements on a campaign statements filed after the election; 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

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 84504.7, subd. (b)(1).

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 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 cbernabe@fppc.ca.gov or (279) 237-5978 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Cinthya Bernabé

Cinthya Bernabé
Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

cc: Sworn complainant