



February 27, 2025

Gil Duarte
[REDACTED]

Warning Letter re: FPPC Case No. 2023-00215; Gil Duarte

Dear Gil Duarte:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This case arose from a sworn complaint, which alleged reporting violations with respect to Form 700 Statements of Economic Interest (“SEIs”) that you filed as a member of the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District (“HLPUSD”). Also, the complaint included conflict of interest allegations. As discussed in more detail below, this case is being closed with this warning letter.

Section 87300 of the Act requires every state and local agency to develop a Conflict of Interest Code. This code requires individuals who participate in making decisions that may foreseeably have a material financial effect on any financial interest belonging to that person to disclose all reportable interests on SEIs.² Individuals required to file SEIs must file within 30 days of assuming office, annually thereafter at the time specified by the code, and within 30 days of leaving office.³

Our investigation found insufficient evidence of a violation of the Act with respect to the allegations of the complaint—but you did violate the Act by filing your 2019 Annual SEI about 63 days late, and your Leaving Office SEI was filed about 19 days late. In mitigation, it does not appear that your violations were intentional, and they resulted in minimal public harm.

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.

Although the Enforcement Division is closing this case without seeking a penalty, you are still required to pay any late filing fees assessed by your filing officer. Please contact your filing officer, for further information about your required filings. Any future non-filings will be brought to our attention and may result in monetary penalties, as noted above.

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 87302, subdivision (b).

³ *Ibid.*

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 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 days from the date of this letter.

If you need guidance regarding your obligations in the future, please visit our website at www.fppc.ca.gov/advice.html or call the Commission's Toll-Free Advice Line at 1-866-ASK-FPPC (1-866-275-3772).

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Neal P. Bucknell

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cc: Fernando Solis (sworn complainant)