



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

March 10, 2025

Sebastian Cazares

Via email: [REDACTED]

Warning Letter re: FPPC No. 2023-00667; Sebastian Cazares

Dear Sebastian Cazares:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (“FPPC”) enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ This letter is in response to a sworn complaint alleging that you failed to timely report a scholarship on your Statement of Economic Interest (“SEI”) filings. The Enforcement Division found that as a result of your position as a Santa Clarita Community College District, College of the Canyons Governing Board Trustee for Area 3, the Act required you to periodically file an SEI, and that you failed to timely report a fellowship on your 2022 Annual and 2023 Annual SEIs, as well as failed to timely report a scholarship on your Leaving Office SEI.

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 which 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

Your actions violated the Act because you failed to timely report your fellowship on your 2022 and 2023 Annual SEIs, and failed to timely report your scholarship on your Leaving Office SEI by the specified deadlines. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close your case with this warning letter rather than a fine due to several mitigating facts: you have no prior Enforcement history, you are no longer serving in this position, you promptly responded when contacted by the Enforcement Division, and you filed amendments to your SEIs.

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

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, subd. (b).

³ *Ibid.*

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.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Jaleena Evans at jevans@fppc.ca.gov or 279-237-3754.

Sincerely,

Jaleena Evans

Jaleena Evans, Attorney
Enforcement Division

cc: Stephen Petzold