



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

October 28, 2025

Larry Ortega
Committee to Elect Larry Ortega City Council 2022
Via email: la@laortega.com

Warning Letter – FPPC No. 2023-00485 - Larry Ortega and Committee to Elect Larry Ortega City Council 2022

Dear Respondents:

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 non-sworn complaint and filing officer referrals alleging that you failed to use advertisement disclaimers on mailers, signs, and banners, and failed to timely file semi-annual campaign statements in connection with the November 8, 2022 General Election.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that you failed to timely file your Form 470, failed to timely file your Form 470 Supplement, failed to timely file a Form 410 Amendment upon qualifying as a committee, failed to timely file the semi-annual Form 460 campaign statement covering October 23, 2022 to December 31, 2022, and failed to timely file the semi-annual Form 460 Termination statement covering January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023. Our review also determined that insufficient evidence exists to establish any violations of the Act’s advertisement rules.

The Act requires candidates to report their financial activity by filing campaign finance statements. The Act allows a candidate who does not have an open committee and does not plan to raise or spend \$2,000 or more in connection with the applicable election to file a Form 470 (Campaign Statement - Short Form) covering the entire calendar year by the first pre-election campaign statement deadline.² The Act requires candidates or officeholders who filed a Form 470 and thereafter received contributions or made expenditures totaling \$2,000 or more, to send written notification (Form 470 Supplement) to the Secretary of State, the local filing officer, and each candidate for the same office within 48 hours of receiving or spending \$2,000 or more.³

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code Sections 81000 through 91014.

² Sections 84206, subd. (c), and 84200.8; Regulation 18406.

³ *Ibid.*

After filing the Form 470 Supplement, the local candidate-controlled committee is responsible for filing a Recipient Committee Campaign Statement (Form 460) for each applicable period.

The Act requires candidates to file a statement of organization (Form 410) to establish a candidate-controlled committee within 10 days of meeting the \$2,000 committee qualification threshold. For local candidate-controlled committees, the original Form 410 must be filed with the Secretary of State (SOS) and a copy must be filed with the local filing officer.⁴ Additionally, the Act requires a candidate-controlled committee to file a subsequent statement of organization (Form 410 Termination) with the SOS to terminate a committee.⁵

The Act requires candidate-controlled committees to file two pre-election campaign statements prior to the election in which the candidate is listed on the ballot.⁶ For the period ending 45 days before the election, the statement shall be filed no later than 40 days before the election.⁷ Additionally, the Act requires a candidate controlled committee to file two 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 31.⁸ The obligation to file campaign statements continues until the candidate or treasurer terminates the committee. Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.⁹

You violated the act because you failed to timely file your Form 470 by the September 29, 2022 deadline, failed to timely file your Form 470 Supplement by the October 19, 2022 deadline, failed to timely file a Form 410 Amendment by the October 27, 2022 deadline, failed to timely file the semi-annual Form 460 covering October 23, 2022 to December 31, 2022 by the January 31, 2023 deadline, and failed to timely file the semi-annual Form 460 Termination statement covering January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023 by the July 31, 2023 deadline.

The Enforcement Division has decided to close your case with a warning letter rather than a fine due to the following mitigating factors: you were prompt to respond when contacted by the Enforcement Division, you have filed your outstanding statements and amendments to your statements, your committee is terminated, you have a low level of experience with the Act, there was a low amount of money raised and spent by your committee, you were an unsuccessful candidate in the election, and you have no prior violations of 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

⁴ Section 84101.

⁵ Section 84214.

⁶ Section 84200.5.

⁷ Section 84200.8, subd. (a).

⁸ Section 84200, subd. (a).

⁹ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.

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.

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

Sincerely,

Jaleena Evans

Jaleena Evans, Attorney
Enforcement Division