



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

August 22, 2025

Dennis Charles Schmidt

Sent via email: [REDACTED]

Warning Letter re: FPPC Case No. 2022-00379; Dennis Charles Schmidt

Dear Dennis Charles Schmidt:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (“Commission”) enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ As you are aware, the Commission’s SEI Unit (“SEI Unit”) referred this matter to the Enforcement Division because you, a City Planning Commissioner for the City of Atascadero, failed to timely file your Assuming Office, 2022 Annual, and 2023 Annual Statements of Economic Interest (“SEIs”), by their respective deadlines.

The Enforcement Division has completed its investigation and review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that you failed to timely file the Assuming Office SEI by March 4, 2021, 2022 Annual SEI by April 3, 2023, and 2023 Annual SEI by April 2, 2024. However, no SEIs are outstanding.

The Act requires every Planning Commissioner to file a SEI disclosing investments, interests in real property, and income received during the 12 months before assuming office within 30 days of assuming office (“Assuming Office SEI”),² and annually each year thereafter by April 1 (“Annual SEI”).³ When April 1 falls on a weekend or holiday, the filing deadline is extended to the next regular business day.⁴

You violated the Act by failing to timely file the Assuming Office, 2022 Annual, and 2023 Annual SEIs as discussed above. However, there are several mitigating factors present in this case. You are no longer in your position as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Atascadero, there are no outstanding SEIs still needed to be filed, you cooperated with the Enforcement Division to address this case, your violations resulted in minimal public harm, and you do not have a recent enforcement history.

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 Sections 87200 and 87202.

³ Sections 87200 and 87203; Regulation 18723, subd. (b)(2).

⁴ Regulation 18116, subd. (a).

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.

Please note that any future non-filings will be brought to our attention and may result in monetary penalties. This warning letter may be considered should a future enforcement action become necessary.

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 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 have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at cbernabefppc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Cinthya Bernabe

Cinthya Bernabe
Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division