



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

January 21, 2026

Will Hess

The Committee to Elect Will Hess, The Will of The People, For California State Assembly,
District 50, in 2020

Via Email Only: will@willhess.org

**Warning Letter re FPPC No. 2021-00937; Will Hess and The Committee to Elect Will Hess,
The Will of The People, For California State Assembly, District 50, in 2020**

Dear Committee and Will Hess:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ In response to the Enforcement Division’s pre-election outreach program, we were made aware by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk’s office, that The Committee to Elect Will Hess, The Will of The People, For California State Assembly, District 50, in 2020 (the “Committee”) violated the Act by failing to timely file a pre-election campaign statement in connection with the November 3, 2020 General Election.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that the Committee failed to timely file the pre-election campaign statement covering the reporting period of January 1, 2020 through September 19, 2020, by the September 24, 2020 deadline; a statement of organization to report the Committee’s date of qualification by the October 6, 2020 deadline; the pre-election campaign statement covering the reporting period of September 20, 2020 through October 17, 2020 by the October 30, 2020 deadline; the semi-annual campaign statement covering the reporting period of October 18, 2020 through December 31, 2020 by the February 1, 2021 deadline; and the semi-annual campaign statement covering the reporting period of January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 by the August 2, 2021 deadline.

The Act requires a candidate controlled committee to file two pre-election campaign statements prior to the applicable election in which the candidate is listed on the ballot.² In addition, the committee must 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 31.³ The obligation to file semi-annual campaign statements continues until the committee is terminated. Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 18104 through 18998, and all statutory references are to this code. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, and all regulatory references are to this source.

² Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.

³ Section 84200(a).

the committee.⁴ Finally, the Act requires that if there is a change in any of the information contained in the statement of organization, an amendment shall be filed within 10 days to reflect the change, including to disclose the committee's date of qualification.⁵ The Committee violated the Act by failing to timely file two pre-election campaign statements, two semi-annual campaign statements, and a statement of organization to report the Committee's date of qualification as discussed above. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with a warning letter for the following reasons: the violations resulted in minimal public harm, your campaign had minimal activity, the Committee has since terminated, you were inexperienced with the requirements of the Act, and neither you nor the Committee have a 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 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.

If you need guidance regarding your obligations, please call the Commission's Toll-Free Advice Line at 1-866-275-3772 or visit our website at www.fppc.ca.gov. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at vjimmy@fppc.ca.gov or (279) 237-5971.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Jimmy

Vanessa Jimmy
Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

⁴ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.

⁵ Sections 84101(a) and 84103(a).