



STATE OF CALIFORNIA FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES
COMMISSION

1102 Q Street • Suite 3050 • Sacramento, CA 95811

March 3, 2026

Matthew E. Cohen
o/b/o Alicia Romero
Aleshire & Wynder, LLP
Via email: mcohen@awattorneys.com

Warning Letter: Case No. 2025-00094; Alicia Romero

Dear Matthew Cohen:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act¹ (the “Act”). This letter is in response to a referral from the County of Los Angeles regarding your client, Alicia Romero (“Romero”), a member of the City Council for the City of Bell. The Enforcement Division found that as a result of their position as a Board Member with the Gateway Water Management Authority in Los Angeles County, the Act required Romero to periodically file a Statement of Economic Interests (“SEI”) and that Romero failed to timely file the 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 Annual SEIs with Los Angeles County.

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 an Annual SEI no later than April 1st of each year.³

Romero was appointed to serve as a Board Member with the Gateway Water Management Authority and was required to file SEIs with the filing officer, Los Angeles County, for this position. Romero violated the Act by failing to file the 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 due date, 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 due date, 2023 Annual SEI by the April 2, 2024 due date, 2024 Annual SEI by the June 2, 2025. The Enforcement Division found though Los Angeles County’s records report that Romero left the office and was required to file a Leaving Office statement, Romero provided information sufficient to show that Romero was reappointed as of September 10, 2025.⁴ Therefore, the next statement that is due 2025 Annual SEI, required to be filed by April 1, 2026.

The Enforcement Division confirms that Romero filed SEIs with the City of Bell in connection with Romero’s position as a member of the Bell City Council. In response to this case

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 Section 87302, subd. (b).

⁴ See City of Bell Resolution No. 2025-49.

being opened, Romero filed the late statements with Los Angeles County. As there was disclosure with Romero's primary position as a city council member, the Enforcement Division has decided to close your case with this Warning Letter.

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 may be required to pay late filing fees assessed by your filing officer. Please contact your filing officer, Panik Nazarian at Pnazarian@bos.lacounty.gov, for further information. Any future non-filings may result in monetary penalties, and this warning letter may be considered in any future enforcement actions.

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 have questions, please contact me at (279) 237-5960 or Tgilbertson@fppc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Theresa Gilbertson

Theresa Gilbertson
Attorney Supervisor
Enforcement Division

CC: Filing Officer: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors