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

October 22, 2026

Stefano "Steve" Rocco
[redacted]

Warning Letter re FPPC No. 2026-00918; Stefano "Steve" Rocco

Dear Stefano "Steve" Rocco:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act").[1] As you are aware, in response to the Fair Political Practices Commission's pre-election outreach program, we were made aware by the County of Orange Registrar of Voters that you failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement and Candidate Statement of Economic Interests ("SEI") in connection with the November 3, 2026 election.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that as a result of your candidacy for election to the Rancho Santiago Community College District Board, Area 2, in Orange County, you were required to file a Form 470 (Campaign Statement – Short Form). The Act requires candidates who do not have an open committee and do not plan to raise or spend $2,000 or more in connection with the applicable election to file a Form 470 covering the entire calendar year by the deadline for the first pre-election campaign statement.[2] You violated the Act by failing to file your Form 470 by the September 24, 2026 due date.

The Act also requires a candidate for elective office to file a Candidate SEI disclosing his or her investments, business positions, interests in real property, and income received during the previous 12 months, as outlined in the conflict of interest code for the agency of which you are running for office.[3] The SEI must be filed no later than the deadline for the declaration of candidacy.[4] You also violated the Act by failing to file the Candidate SEI by the August 7, 2026 due date.

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[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 84200.5 and 84206.

[3] Section 87302.3.

[4] *Ibid.*

However, for the following reasons, the Enforcement Division has decided to close your case with a warning letter rather than a fine: You were referred as part of the proactive pre-election outreach program; you filed your Form 470 and Candidate SEI after you were contacted by the Enforcement Division; you filed the Form 470 and the Candidate SEI before the election; and you have not had a prior violation of these sections. Please note that while the Enforcement Division is closing this matter without a fine, your filing officer may assess late filing penalties.

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 Enforcement Division is authorized to issue warning letters to conclude cases in certain circumstances. However, the warning letter resolution does not provide you with the opportunity for a probable cause hearing or a 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 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 10 days from the date of this letter.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at cbernabe@fppc.ca.gov or (279) 237-5978.

Sincerely,

Cinthya Bernabe

Cinthya Bernabe
Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

Cc: Filing Officer