



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

September 29, 2026

Yang for Superintendent of Public Instruction 2022
George Yang (Candidate)
Thomas E. Montgomery III (Treasurer)

Via email: tom@politicalcommunicationsinc.com

Warning Letter re FPPC No. 2025-00459; Yang for Superintendent of Public Instruction 2022, George Yang and Thomas E. Montgomery III

Dear Committee, George Yang and Thomas E. Montgomery III,

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”).¹ As you are aware, the Enforcement Division has received a referral from the Franchise Tax Board’s (“FTB”) Political Reform Audit Program resulting from an audit of Yang for Superintendent of Public Instruction 2022 (the “Committee”), as a statewide committee who raised or spent \$25,000 or more and was subject to audit.

The FTB audit concluded that the Committee violated the Act by failing to file one 24-hour contribution report for a loan received by the Committee from the candidate, and two 10-day contribution reports for two loans forgiven by the Committee that were originally made by the candidate.

The Act requires candidate-controlled committees that receive a contribution, including candidate loans, of \$1,000 or more from a single source within 90 days before the election to file a 24-hour report within 24 hours of receipt of the contribution.² The Act requires a candidate for elective state office who is required to file reports pursuant to Section 84605 to file online or electronically with the Secretary of State a report disclosing receipt of a contribution of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more received at any time other than during an election cycle. Those reports disclose the same information required by subdivision (a) of Section 84203 and shall be filed within 10 business days of receipt of the contribution.³ Contributions include the

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 82036 and 84203.

³ Section 85309(c).

forgiveness of loans by a committee.⁴ Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.⁵

You violated the Act by failing to timely file one 24-hour contribution report due on March 22, 2022, for a candidate loan of \$15,000 received by the Committee. Additionally, you failed to timely file two 10-day contribution reports after the Committee forgave a loan of \$11,947 from the candidate and a loan of \$26,000 from the candidate, both due on September 19, 2022. Although you violated the Act, you were unsuccessful in your election, your committee has terminated, the majority of your campaign was self-funded, the candidate was the source of 100% of the funds for each violation, the activity from all three counts was reported timely on the pre-election and semi-annual campaign statements, there was no evidence of an intent to violate the Act or conceal the violations, and you do not have any prior Enforcement history. As a result, the Enforcement Division is closing this 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.

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 have any questions, please feel free to contact me at cfelkins@fppc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael Chance Felkins

Michael Chance Felkins, Commission Counsel
Enforcement Division

⁴ Section 82015(a).

⁵ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.