



EXECUTIVE STAFF REPORTS

July 15, 2021 Commission Hearing

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I. ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

STAFF: ANGELA BRERETON, CHIEF OF ENFORCEMENT

A. Overview

During the period of June 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 the Enforcement Division received 58 complaints, opened 11 for investigation, and rejected 26. The Enforcement Division received 214 referrals during this time. The Enforcement Division closed a total of 82 cases including:

- 24 warning letters – advertisement violations (2), behested payment violations (5), campaign violations (7), conflict of interest code violations (2), and statement of economic interests violations (8);
- 18 no action closure letters alleging – advertisement violations (3), campaign violations (7), conflict of interest code violations (2), and statement of economic interests violations (6);
- 34 approved stipulations from the March, May, and June Commission meetings;
- 1 approved default from the February Commission meeting;
- 4 advisory letters for lobbying violations (1), and campaign violations (3); and
- 1 committee was administratively terminated.

The Division had 1,464 cases in various stages of resolution at the time of the June Monthly Report and currently has approximately 1,527 cases in various stages of resolution, including the 22 cases before the Commission as listed in the July Agenda.

B. Annual Statistics

On the next page, you will find a chart that details the annual statistics for enforcement complaints, referrals and cases. This chart includes the data from 2020, where Enforcement had a highly efficient and effective year, receiving over 2,900 complaints and referrals and closing 1,117 cases with violations found. The information in the chart has been gathered from public reports, information from the defunct and inactive database, and data that has been converted into current form, so the numbers are close estimates in some instances.

| | Year | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|----|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Complaints Received | 1,180 | 564 | 1,352 | 744 | 1,390 |
| 2 | Referrals Received | 350 | 1,616 | 1,529 | 1,950 | 1,518 |
| 3 | Total Complaint and Referrals Received | 1,530 | 2,180 | 2,881 | 2,694 | 2,908 |
| 4 | Cases opened | 1,315 | 1,480 | 1,561 | 1,820 | 1,155 |
| 5 | Cases closed ³ | 1,803 | 1,477 | 1,243 | 1,465 | 1,526 |
| 6 | Cases with resolutions approved by the Commission ¹ | 311 | 340 | 235 | 343 | 278 |
| | a Streamline cases approved by Commission | 234 | 262 | 173 | 263 | 194 |
| | b Mainline cases approved by Commission | 70 | 66 | 56 | 73 | 77 |
| | c Default cases approved by Commission | 7 | 12 | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| 7 | Total fines imposed by the Commission | \$894,257 | \$1,126,933 | \$499,606 | \$797,384 | \$1,940,107 |
| 8 | Warning letters issued | 489 | 505 | 554 | 584 | 777 |
| 9 | Administrative terminations | 668 | 297 | 177 | 104 | 62 |
| 10 | Cases closed with violations found ² | 1,468 | 1,142 | 966 | 1,031 | 1,117 |
| 1 | Advisory letters issued | 14 | 17 | 20 | 9 | 7 |
| 12 | No action closure letters | 321 | 318 | 252 | 423 | 402 |

¹ Total for lines 6a, 6b, and 6c.

² Total for lines 6, 8, and 9.

³ Total cases closed includes Commission approved cases from the previous year and Commission approved administrative judgements. It does not include Commission approved cases not yet closed.

D. Unexecuted Streamline Stipulations

Streamline penalty stipulations are approved by the Chief of Enforcement and reported to the Commission for discussion only before they are executed. The following streamline stipulations are presented for that purpose. After the close of the hearing, the Chief of Enforcement may execute all or any of the streamline penalty stipulations, at the Chief's discretion per Regulation 18360.2.

Since the last Monthly Report, the Enforcement Chief has not used discretion to increase the penalties for Tier Two advertising violations resulting in public confusion, under Regulation 18360.3(d)(7)(B)(i)(b), or to increase the penalties for Tier Two violations involving the same candidate, committee, or principal officer who has paid a Tier One penalty to the Commission or received a Warning Letter from the Commission for the same type of violation occurring within the last five years, based on the resulting public harm.

The Enforcement Chief used discretion under Regulation 18360.2 to exclude violations in two streamline cases presented with this report: Committee to Elect Tiffany Organ-Bowles Judge 2016, Tiffany Organ-Bowles, and Stephen Bowles; FPPC No. 19/372 (The total penalty exceeds the amount that would be paid in a Mainline Stipulation; Lack of experience or knowledge of the Act's requirements caused multiple violations with minimal public harm that were corrected upon contact.); Vote Tom Webster for P-BVUSD School Board and Tom Webster ; FPPC No. 21/346 (The committee raised and spent less than \$10,000).

Advertisements and Campaign Late Filer/Reporter

In the Matter of Carson Alliance 4 Truth and Janice Schaefer; FPPC No. 16/790. Staff: Christopher Burton, Assistant Chief of Enforcement and George Aradi, Special Investigator. Carson Alliance 4 Truth is a local general purpose committee. Janice Schaefer is the Committee's treasurer. The Committee and Schaefer failed to include the required disclosures on one mass mailing and three print advertisements in connection with a February 23, 2016 Special Election and the November 8, 2016 General Election, in violation of Government Code Sections 84305, 84506, and 84506.5 (4 counts); failed to timely file three preelection campaign statements, three semi-annual campaign statements, four 24-hour reports, and an amendment to the Committee's statement of organization, in violation of Government Code Sections 84103, 84200, 84200.5, and 84204 (11 counts); and failed to timely report certain activity on one semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$5,599 (Tier One & Two).**

In the Matter of Committee to Re-Elect John Norman SJUSD TA3 2020 and John Norman; FPPC No. 20/780. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Dominika Wojenska, Associate Governmental Program Analyst. John Norman was an unsuccessful candidate for San Jacinto Unified School District Board in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Committee to Re-Elect John Norman SJUSD TA3 2020 was Norman's candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Norman failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count); failed to timely report

campaign activity on a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (1 count); and failed to include the proper advertisement disclosure on a mailer paid for by the Committee prior to the election, in violation of Government Code Section 84305 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$735 (Tier One & Two).**

In the Matter of Uber Technologies, Inc.; FPPC No. 20/757. Staff: Christopher Burton, Assistant Chief of Enforcement. The respondent was represented by Steven S. Lucas of Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni LLP. Uber Technologies, Inc. was a major donor committee in 2020 that paid for certain advertisements supporting State Proposition 22 prior to the November 3, 2020 General Election. Uber Technologies, Inc. failed to include the proper advertisement disclosures on electronic media advertisements, in violation of Government Code Sections 84502 and 84504.3 (2 counts). **Total Penalty: \$545 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Chuck Fisher for El Centro Elementary School Board 2020 and Chuck Fisher; FPPC No. 20/909. Staff: Christopher Burton, Assistant Chief of Enforcement and Alethea Perez, Special Investigator. Chuck Fisher was an unsuccessful candidate for El Centro Elementary School Board in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Chuck Fisher for El Centro Elementary School Board 2020 was Fisher's candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Fisher failed to include the required disclosures on one mass mailing and one electronic media advertisement, in violation of Government Code Sections 84305 and 84504.4 (2 counts). **Total Penalty: \$510 (Tier One & Two).**

Campaign Late Filer/Reporter

In the Matter of Committee to Elect Tiffany Organ-Bowles Judge 2016, Tiffany Organ-Bowles, and Stephen Bowles; FPPC No. 19/372. Staff: Jenna C. Rinehart, Commission Counsel. This matter arose from an audit performed by the Franchise Tax Board's Political Reform Audit Program. Tiffany Organ-Bowles was a successful candidate for Kern County Superior Court Judge, Office 34, in the June 7, 2016 Primary Election and the November 8, 2016 General Election. Committee to Elect Tiffany Organ-Bowles Judge 2016 was Judge Organ-Bowles' candidate-controlled committee. Stephen Bowles was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee, Organ-Bowles, and Bowles failed to timely file a 24-hour report, in violation of Government Code Section 84203 (1 count) and failed to timely report contributions on a semi-annual campaign statement and accrued expenses and subvendor information on two preelection campaign statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (3 counts). **Total Penalty: \$3,270 (Tier One & Two).**

In the Matter of Solorio for City Council 2016; Solorio for College Board, RSCCD 2016; Prosperity for California, a Ballot Measure Committee Sponsored by Jose Solorio (Formerly known as Honor at Home, a Ballot Measure Committee Chaired by Community College Trustee Jose Solorio); Small Business Owners and Taxpayers for Jose Solorio for Senate 2014; and Jose Solorio; FPPC No. 18/117. Staff: Theresa Gilbertson, Senior Commission Counsel, Ann Flaherty, Special Investigator, and Patricia Ballantyne, Program Specialist. The respondents were represented by Richard Rios of Olson Remcho. Jose Solorio was a successful candidate for Santa Ana City Council in the November 8, 2016 General

Election. Solorio was also a successful candidate for California State Senate, District 34 in the June 3, 2014 Primary Election but unsuccessful in the 2014 General Election. Solorio was the controlling candidate for all committees referenced. The Committee Solorio for College Board, RSCCD 2016 and Solorio failed to timely file a 24-hour report, in violation of Government Code Section 84203 (1 count) and failed to timely report expenditures on a semi-annual campaign statement and a preelection campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (2 counts). The Committee Solorio for City Council 2016 and Solorio failed to timely report expenditures on two preelection campaign statements, three semi-annual campaign statements, and one 24-hour report, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (6 counts). The Committee Prosperity for California and Solorio failed to timely report expenditures on a preelection campaign statement and a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (2 counts). The Committee Small Business Owners and Taxpayers for Jose Solorio for Senate 2014 and Solorio failed to timely report expenditures on three preelection campaign statements and one semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (4 counts). **Total Penalty: \$2,815 (Tier One).**

[In the Matter of Jose C. Flores for Arvin Mayor 2016, Jose Flores, and Martha Flores; FPPC No. 19/1694.](#) Staff: Jenna C. Rinehart, Commission Counsel and Dominika Wojenska, Associate Governmental Program Analyst. Jose Flores was an unsuccessful candidate for Mayor of Arvin in the November 8, 2016 General Election. Jose C. Flores for Arvin Mayor 2016 was Flores' candidate-controlled committee. Martha Flores was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee, Flores, and Flores failed to timely file two preelection campaign statements, one semi-annual campaign statement, and one 24-hour report, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5, 84200, and 84203 (4 counts). **Total Penalty: \$1,149 (Tier One & Two).**

[In the Matter of Ted Winterer for City Council 2016, Ted Winterer, and Michael Bone; FPPC No. 17/133.](#) Staff: Jenna C. Rinehart, Commission Counsel. Ted Winterer was a successful candidate for Santa Monica City Council in the November 8, 2016 General Election. Ted Winterer for City Council 2016 was Winterer's candidate-controlled committee. Michael Bone was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee, Winterer, and Bone failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200 (1 count); failed to timely file a candidate intention statement, in violation of Government Code Section 85200 (1 count); and failed to timely report occupation/employer information for certain contributors on two preelection campaign statements and two semi-annual campaign statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (4 counts). **Total Penalty: \$1,019 (Tier One).**

[In the Matter of Orange County Freedom Fund and Michael Schroeder; FPPC No. 20/961.](#) Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Ginny Lambing, Political Reform Consultant. Orange County Freedom Fund is a local general purpose committee that was active during the November 3, 2020 General Election. Michael Schroeder was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee and Schroeder failed to timely file a 24-hour report, in violation of Government Code Section 84204 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$605 (Tier Two).**

In the Matter of Committee to Elect Ryan Childers IID Director Division 2 2020, Ryan Childers, and Alysa Pacrem; FPPC No. 21/205. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. Ryan Childers was a successful candidate for Imperial Irrigation District Board in the March 3, 2020 Primary Election, but unsuccessful in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Committee to Elect Ryan Childers IID Director Division 2 2020 was Childers candidate-controlled committee. Alysa Pacrem was the Committee's treasurer at the time of the violation. The Committee, Childers, and Pacrem failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$600 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Vote Tom Webster for P-BVUSD School Board and Tom Webster; FPPC No. 21/346. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Dominika Wojenska, Associate Governmental Program Analyst. Tom Webster was an unsuccessful candidate for Panama-Buena Vista Union School District Board in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Vote Tom Webster for P-BVUSD School Board was Webster's candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Webster failed to timely file one 24-hour report, in violation of Government Code Section 84203 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$550 (Tier Two).**

In the Matter of Flaherman for CalPERS Board 2017, Michael Flaherman, and Rachel Flaherman; FPPC No. 18/276. Staff: Theresa Gilbertson, Senior Commission Counsel and Patricia Ballantyne, Program Specialist. Michael Flaherman was an unsuccessful candidate for one of two Member-at-Large seats on the CalPERS Board of Administration. Flaherman for CalPERS Board 2017 was Flaherman's candidate-controlled committee. Rachel Flaherman was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee, Flaherman, and Flaherman failed to timely file a 24-hour report, in violation of Government Code Section 84203 (1 count) and failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$500 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Green Party of Sacramento County and Gary Blenner; FPPC No. 19/1289. Staff: Theresa Gilbertson, Senior Commission Counsel. The Green Party of Sacramento County was a political party committee. Gary Blenner was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee and Blenner failed to report contributions and expenditures on three semi-annual campaign statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (3 counts). **Total Penalty: \$308 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Bruce Huynh for Kids First – School Board 2018, Bruce Huynh, and Gabriel Alvarez; FPPC No. 19/1589. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Ginny Lambing, Political Reform Consultant. Bruce Huynh was an unsuccessful candidate for Alum Rock Union Board of Trustees in the November 6, 2018 General Election. Bruce Huynh for Kids First – School Board 2018 was Huynh's candidate-controlled committee. Gabriel Alvarez was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee, Huynh, and Alvarez failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$290 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Jim Watt for KFPD Board 2020 and James Watt; FPPC No. 21/460. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. Jim Watt was an unsuccessful candidate for the Kensington Fire Protection District Board in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Jim Watt for KFPD Board 2020 was Watt's candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Watt failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$272 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Carolina Gallardo-Magana for Council 2020 and Carolina Gallardo-Magana; FPPC No. 20/1122. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Shaina Elkin, Staff Services Analyst. Carolina Gallardo Magana was an unsuccessful candidate for Oxnard City Council District 6 in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Carolina Gallardo Magana for Council 2020 was Gallardo-Magana's candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Gallardo-Magana failed to timely file a preelection campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$226 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Faye Taylor for City Council, District 3 and Faye Taylor; FPPC No. 21/302. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Shaina Elkin, Staff Services Analyst. Faye Taylor was an unsuccessful candidate for Oakland City Council District 3 in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Faye Taylor for City Council, District 3 was Taylor's candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Taylor failed to timely file a preelection campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$223 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Committee to Recall City Council Members Voights, Hamilton & Robinson, and Mary Azevedo; FPPC No. 16/450. Staff: Christopher Burton, Assistant Chief of Enforcement and Lance Hachigian, Special Investigator. Committee to Recall City Council Members Voights, Hamilton & Robinson was a committee primarily formed to support a recall of three City Councilmembers in the City of Lake Forest in 2015 and 2016. Mary Azevedo was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee and Azevedo failed to timely report a nonmonetary contribution on a quarterly campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$110 (Tier One).**

Statement of Economic Interests Late Filer

In the Matter of Philip Wang; FPPC No. 17/957. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Amber Burnside, Assistant Political Reform Consultant. Philip Wang, a Senior Transportation Engineer for the Department of Transportation, failed to timely file a 2016 Annual, 2017 Annual, and a 2018 Annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87300 (3 counts). **Total Penalty: \$600 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Gabriela Mares; FPPC No. 18/127. Staff: Alex Rose, Commission Counsel. Gabriela Mares, as a Board Member for Calwa Recreation and Park District, failed to timely file an Assuming Office Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87202 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$200 (Tier One).**

In the Matter of Mark Danaj; FPPC No. 21/244. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Kimberly Rawnsley, Staff Services Analyst. Mark Danaj, a City Manager for the City of Fremont, failed to timely file a 2019 Annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87203 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$200 (Tier One).**

II. LEGAL DIVISION

STAFF: DAVE BAINBRIDGE, GENERAL COUNSEL

A. Pending Litigation

California State Association of Counties and California School Boards Association v. FPCC
County of Los Angeles Superior Court, Central District
Case No. BS174653

On September 11, 2018, petitioners served a first amended petition for writ of mandate and complaint for declaratory relief. Petitioners allege that Regulations 18420.1 and 18901.1 are invalid as a matter of law, that the Commission has exceeded its jurisdiction in adopting these Regulations, and that the Regulations are unenforceable.

On March 29, 2019, the Commission's Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings was granted with leave to amend. The court vacated all hearing dates and set a new trial setting conference. Plaintiffs timely filed a second amended complaint on June 27, 2019.

The Commission filed a demurrer and the hearing occurred on November 22, 2019. In its ruling, the court: (1) sustained the demurrer to the first cause of action without leave to amend; (2) sustained the demurrer with leave to amend on plaintiff CSBA's standing on all cause of action and plaintiff CSAC's standing on all causes of actions challenging Regulation 18901.1; and (3) overruled the remaining grounds for demurrer.

Petitioners filed a third amended complaint, and the Commission filed an answer. The parties submitted pretrial briefs and after hearing on December 4, 2020, the court issued an order denying the writ. Notice of entry of the court's judgment was served on January 12, 2021.

Petitioners filed a timely notice of appeal on March 10, 2021. Updates on the various appellate filing deadlines will be provided when dates are set.

Mat Wahlstrom v. California Fair Political Practices Commission and Stephen J. Kaufman
San Diego County Superior Court, Central Division
Case No. 37-2020-00030654-CU-WM-CTL

Petitioner filed a petition for writ of mandate on August 31, 2020. The petition seeks to set aside a streamline stipulation, decision and order against Todd Gloria adopted by the Commission in November 2019. The Attorney General is representing the Commission. The Commission filed an answer to the complaint on October 22, 2020. Petitioner filed an amended petition on May 12, 2021. The Commission filed a demurrer to the amended petition. A hearing has been set for December 10, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. in Department 65 before Judge Ronald F. Frazier.

B. Outreach and Training

Webinars

- June 15th, the FPPC hosted a Candidate/Treasurer webinar. Political Reform Consultants Adam Ramirez and Katie Trumbly presented. 20 people attended.
- June 18th, the FPPC hosted a Statement of Economic Interest Filing Officer webinar that was requested by Lake County. Political Reform Consultants Adam Ramirez and Stephen Hernandez presented, along with Andrea Carrey from the SEI unit. 21 people attended.
- June 21st, the FPPC hosted a Candidate/Treasurer webinar for the San Mateo Democratic Club. Staff Services Manager Alana Jeydel and Political Reform Consultant Katie Trumbly presented. 20 people attended.
- June 23rd, the FPPC hosted a Campaign Filing Officer webinar. Staff Services Manager Alana Jeydel and Political Reform Consultant Stephen Hernandez presented. 50 people attended.

Scheduled Webinars

- July 13th, the FPPC is hosting an AB 571 webinar.
- August 11th, the FPPC is hosting a Candidate/Treasurer webinar.
- August 25th, the FPPC is hosting a Campaign Filing Officer Webinar
- September 14th, the FPPC is hosting a Candidate/Treasurer Webinar.
- September 22nd, the FPPC is hosting a Campaign Filing Officer Webinar
- September 29th, the FPPC is hosting a Statement of Economic Interest Filing Officer webinar.

Video Tutorials

- Commission video tutorials were accessed a total of 459 times in June. Form 700 videos were accessed 203 times, the Candidate/Treasurer video was accessed 123 times, and the filing officer videos were accessed 133 times.

C. Advice

The June 25, 2021, Advice Letter Report is available at [Advice Letter Report - June 2021 \(ca.gov\)](#).

In June, the Legal Division responded to the following requests for advice:

- **Education Program:** The Education Program responded to 307 requests for technical assistance via phone.
- **Requests for Advice:** The Email Advice and Conflict of Interest Code Program and Legal Division attorneys collectively responded to more than 397 email and telephone requests for advice, 58 of which were not responded to within 24 hours.
- **Advice Letters:** The Legal Division received 12 advice letter requests under the Political Reform Act and completed 11.
- **Section 1090 Letters:** The Legal Division received eight advice letter request concerning Section 1090 and completed two. This year to date, we have received 35 advice requests regarding Section 1090.

D. Miscellaneous Decisions

Exemption Requests

Regulation 18740 provides that an official or candidate is not required to disclose the name of a person under Section 87207 if disclosure would violate California or Federal law. The following exemption request was approved July 1, 2021:

- Suzi Hong, Deputy City Attorney, City and County of San Francisco, Exemption No. E-21-002.

E. Potential Upcoming Regulations

August 19th, 2021

- Campaign Ads and Media. (Regulations 18421.5, 18450.4, and 18450.9.) (1) Update Regulation 18421.5 to modernize and enhance the campaign expenditure reporting required in connection with communications where a committee has paid a third party to post favorable or unfavorable content and to harmonize with the campaign advertising provisions of the Act. (2) Amend Regulation 18450.4 to provide a minor clarification related to video advertisements posted on social media and what disclosure must be included on such videos. (3) Propose new Regulation 18950.4 to clarify disclosure requirements when a committee pays a third party (such as a social media “influencer”) to post advertisements on social media and to provide guidance on disclosure for advertisements paid for by a committee that are in written format and posted on third-

party non-social media websites. (Adoption.)

- Lobbyist Recordkeeping. (Regulation 18612.) Update and enhance recordkeeping requirements for lobbyists and lobbying entities. (Prenotice.)

September 16th, 2021

- Behested Payment Reporting. (Regulations 18204 and 18215.3.) Regulatory additions and amendments to improve the efficiency and transparency of behested payment reporting, including providing for reporting of good faith estimates of payments in certain circumstances, and clarifying rules for disclosure of payments made in response to third party fundraising solicitations. (Adoption.)
- Agency Electronic Filing Systems. (Regulations 18753 and 18756) Regulatory additions and amendments permitting and facilitating agencies' establishment and use of electronic filing systems. (Pre-notice.)

October 21, 2021

- Lobbyist Recordkeeping. (Regulation 18612.) Update and enhance recordkeeping requirements for lobbyists and lobbying entities. (Adoption.)

F. Conflict of Interest Codes

Adoptions and Amendments

State Agency Conflict of Interest Codes

- None to Report

Multi-County Agency Conflict of Interest Codes

- Lower San Joaquin Levee District
- Roseville Joint Union High School District

Exemptions

- None to Report

Extensions

Governor's Military Council

G. Probable Cause Hearings

Please note, a finding of probable cause does not constitute a finding that a violation has occurred. The respondents are presumed to be innocent of any violation of the Act unless a violation is proven in a subsequent proceeding.

The following matters were decided based solely on the papers. The respondents did not request a probable cause hearing.

- 1. *In the Matter of Stop the Strong Mayor Power Grab, No on Measure A and Craig Powell, Case No. 20/823.*** On June 9, 2021, probable cause was found to believe Respondent committed the following violations of the Act:

Count 1: The Committee and Powell failed to include the “Ad paid for by” language on yard signs and, additionally, to put the disclosure statement in a printed or drawn box, in violation of Government Code Sections 84502, subdivision (a)(1), and 84504.2, subdivision (b).

Count 2: The Committee and Powell failed to include the “Ad paid for by” language on banners and, additionally, to put the disclosure statement in a printed or drawn box, in violation of Government Code Sections 84502, subdivision (a)(1), and 84504.2, subdivision (b).

Count 3: The Committee and Powell failed to include the “Ad paid for by” language on the Committee’s website, in violation of Government Code Sections 84502, subdivision (a)(1), and 84504.3.

Count 4: The Committee and Powell failed to include the “Ad paid for by” language on the Committee’s social media page, in violation of Government Code Sections 84502, subdivision (a)(1), and 84504.3.

- 2. *In the Matter of Frank C. Guzman, Frank Guzman for Assembly 2018, Frank Guzman for Pomona School Board 2020, and Tina Solorzano, Case Nos. 2018/01512 and 2020/00876.*** On June 16, 2021, probable cause was found to believe that Respondents committed the following violations of the Act:

Count 1: Guzman failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018 with the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk by the deadline of July 31, 2018, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.

Count 2: Guzman failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement for the reporting period of July 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 with the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk by the deadline of January 31, 2019, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.

- Count 3: Guzman failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019 with the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk by the deadline of July 31, 2019, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 4: Guzman failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement for the reporting period of July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 with the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk by the deadline of January 31, 2020, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 5: The 2018 Assembly Committee, Guzman, and Solorzano failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement with the Secretary of State for the reporting period of January 1, 2018 through April 21, 2018 by the deadline of April 26, 2018, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84605.
- Count 6: The 2018 Assembly Committee, Guzman, and Solorzano failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement with the Secretary of State for the reporting period of April 22, 2018 through May 19, 2018 by the deadline of May 24, 2018, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84605.
- Count 7: The 2018 Assembly Committee, Guzman, and Solorzano failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement with the Secretary of State for the reporting period of May 20, 2018 through June 30, 2018 by the deadline of July 31, 2018, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84605.
- Count 8: The 2018 Assembly Committee, Guzman, and Solorzano failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement with the Secretary of State for the reporting period of July 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 by the deadline of January 31, 2019, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84605.
- Count 9: The 2018 Assembly Committee, Guzman, and Solorzano failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement with the Secretary of State for the reporting period of January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019 by the deadline of July 31, 2019, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84605.
- Count 10: The 2018 Assembly Committee, Guzman, and Solorzano failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement with the Secretary of State for the reporting period of July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 by the deadline of January 31, 2020, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84605.
- Count 11: The 2020 School Board Committee and Guzman failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement with the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for the reporting period of January 1, 2020 through September 19, 2020 by the deadline of September 24, 2020, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5.

Count 12: The 2020 School Board Committee and Guzman failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement with the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for the reporting period of September 20, 2020 through October 17, 2020 by the deadline of October 22, 2020, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5.

Count 13: The 2020 School Board Committee and Guzman failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement with the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for the reporting period of October 18, 2020 through December 31, 2020 by the deadline of February 1, 2021, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.

Count 14: The 2020 School Board Committee and Guzman failed to timely file a statement of organization with the Secretary of State and the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, due within 10 days of qualifying as a recipient committee, in violation of Government Code Section 84101.

Count 15: Guzman failed to timely file a candidate statement of economic interests by the deadline of August 12, 2020, in violation of Government Code Section 87302.3.

3. ***In the Matter of Don't Double the Tax, No on Measure B, James Cathart and Craig Powell, Case No. 16/19812.*** On June 24, 2021, probable cause was found to believe Respondents committed the following violations of the Act:

Count 1: The Committee and Powell failed to print the language "Paid for by" and disclose the name of the Committee on advertisements, in violation of Section 84504, subdivision (c), and Regulation 18450.4, subdivision (b)(1).

Count 2: The Committee and Cathart failed to timely file three 24-Hour Contribution Reports within 24 hours, in violation of Section 84203.

4. ***In the Matter of Chris Chahinian for State Senate 2016, Khatchik "Chris" Chahinian, and Shahe Guiragossian, Case No. 2018-01445.*** On June 28, 2021, probable cause was found to believe Respondents committed the following violations of the Act:

Count 1: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to maintain Committee records for contributions totaling \$37,152 received by the Committee – out of which \$23,986 were loans reported as received from Chahinian.

The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to maintain that receipts, invoices, vouchers, and check registers were not maintained for expenditures totaling approximately \$44,577.

The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to maintain cancelled checks were not maintained for expenditures totaling \$34,403.

In this way, the Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian violated Government Code section 84104.

- Count 2: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely file a 24-hour contribution report after receiving a contribution of \$5,000 from Chahinian on or around March 28, 2016, in violation of Government Code sections 84203 and 85309.
- Count 3: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely file a 24-hour contribution report after receiving a contribution of \$3,673 from Chahinian on or around March 29, 2016, in violation of Government Code sections 84203 and 85309.
- Count 4: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely file a 24-hour contribution report after receiving a contribution of \$1,000 from Armen Musadaryan, \$1,000 contribution from Moris Musharbash, and a \$1,000 contribution from Grigor Sedrakyan on or around April 21, 2016, in violation of Government Code sections 84203 and 85309.
- Count 5: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely file a 24-hour contribution report after receiving a contribution of \$3,250 from Chahinian on or around May 19, 2016, in violation of Government Code sections 84203 and 85309.
- Count 6: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely file a 24-hour contribution report after receiving a contribution of \$12,064 from Chahinian on or around June 6, 2016, in violation of Government Code sections 84203 and 85309.
- Count 7: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement covering the reporting period of January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015, due February 1, 2016, in violation of Government Code section 84200.
- Count 8: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement covering the reporting period of January 1, 2016 – April 23, 2016, due April 28, 2016, in violation of Government Code section 84200.5.
- Count 9: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement covering the reporting period of April 24, 2016 – May 21, 2016, due May 26, 2016, in violation of Government Code section 84200.5.
- Count 10: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian failed to timely report occupation and/or employer information in the reporting periods of January 1, 2016 – April 23, 2016 and April 24, 2016 – May 21, 2016 for approximately thirty-four individuals totaling approximately \$16,810, in violation of Government Code section 84211.
- Count 11: The Committee, Chahinian, and Guiragossian, beginning February 2, 2016 through March 29, 2016, deposited contributions totaling approximately \$19,908 and made expenditures totaling approximately \$22,201 from a bank account other than the designated campaign bank account, in violation of Government Code section 85201.

III. ADMINISTRATION & TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

STAFF: LORESSA HON, CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION

New Employee Report

Enforcement Division

Katelin (Katie) Angeloni, Special Investigator

Taylor Culberson, Staff Services Analyst/Assistant PRC

Administration Division

Oksana Motronchik, Information Technology Associates

Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700)

As of July 1, 2021, there were 617 Form 700 non-filers of the 2020/2021 Annual Form 700 filing. Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) Unit staff have sent all non-filer letters on or before July 1, 2021 for the 2020/2021 annual filing.