



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
1102 Q Street • Suite 3000 • Sacramento, CA 95811

January 8, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Skinner, Chair
Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review
Joint Legislative Budget Committee

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair
Assembly Committee on Budget

The Honorable Anna M. Caballero, Chair
Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 4

The Honorable Wendy Carrillo, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4

Mr. Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst
Legislative Analyst's Office

Ms. Keely Bosler, Director of Finance
Department of Finance

Dear Senator Skinner, Assemblymember Ting, Senator Caballero, Assemblymember Carrillo,
Mr. Petek, and Ms. Bosler:

Pursuant to the supplemental reporting language contained in Item 8620-001-0001 of the Budget Act of 2020 (Chapter 6 of the Statutes of 2020), I am providing you with the following statistics regarding the workload of the Fair Political Practices Commission for the 2020 calendar year:

Enforcement Division Workload

(a) Data collected regarding enforcement of the Political Reform Act of 1974.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Complaints Received	1,180	564	1,352	743	1,390
Referrals Received	350	1,616	1,529	1,914	1,518
Cases opened	1,315	1,480	1,561	1,820	1,155
Streamline cases approved by Commission	234	262	173	263	194
Mainline cases approved by Commission	70	66	56	73	77
Default cases approved by Commission	7	12	6	7	7
Total fines imposed by the Commission	\$894,257	\$1,126,933	\$499,606	\$797,384	\$1,940,107*



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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Warning letters issued	489	505	554	584	777
Administrative terminations	668	297	177	104	62
Cases closed with violations found	1,468	1,142	966	1,031	1,117
Advisory letters issued	14	17	20	9	7
No action closure letters	321	318	252	423	402

*The total fines imposed by the Commission in 2020 included a \$1.35 million settlement for a single case involving failure to disclose campaign expenditures made with public funds by a local government.

Violations under the PRA, by category, and the average case pendency (as measured by the number days from the date case was opened until the date of final disposition).

Case Violation Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Advertisements					
Number of Cases	70	17	45	24	47
Case Pendency	559	543	262	190	59
Annual Fees					
Number of Cases	144	311	89	77	4
Case Pendency	242	90	203	187	84
Behested Payment					
Number of Cases	5	0	2	7	0
Case Pendency	674	0	688	91	0
Campaign Bank Account					
Number of Cases	9	10	8	1	0
Case Pendency	827	498	578	572	0
Campaign Committee Coordination					
Number of Cases	1	0	1	0	0
Case Pendency	1265	0	581	0	0
Campaign Contribution Limits					
Number of Cases	8	9	12	3	1
Case Pendency	507	305	188	222	247
Campaign					
Number of Cases	434	411	640	272	204
Case Pendency	338	240	199	153	79
Cash and In-Kind Contributions/Expenditures					
Number of Cases	3	5	1	1	1
Case Pendency	1002	228	615	92	17
Conflict of Interest Code					
Number of Cases	2	0	2	0	10
Case Pendency	399	0	27	0	35



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Case Violation Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Conflict of Interests					
Number of Cases	35	16	12	8	2
Case Pendency	743	418	226	236	10
Filing Officer Duties					
Number of Cases	3	1	0	3	1
Case Pendency	317	836	0	156	16
Gift					
Number of Cases	5	5	3	1	0
Case Pendency	550	424	17	14	0
Laundered Campaign Contributions					
Number of Cases	11	3	2	2	1
Case Pendency	673	539	87	281	31
Legal Defense Fund					
Number of Cases	1	0	0	1	0
Case Pendency	288	0	0	13	0
Lobbying Reporting					
Number of Cases	22	44	30	49	25
Case Pendency	494	364	208	128	80
Mass Mailings					
Number of Cases	29	15	17	2	3
Case Pendency	497	403	215	308	87
Misuse of Campaign Funds					
Number of Cases	7	5	4	1	0
Case Pendency	640	684	272	12	0
Other					
Number of Cases	7	15	9	1	7
Case Pendency	206	182	30	381	33
Other Entities					
Number of Cases	8	2	6	8	3
Case Pendency	1038	585	403	347	39
Recordkeeping					
Number of Cases	8	6	7	2	0
Case Pendency	676	557	195	453	0
Revolving Door					
Number of Cases	1	2	0	1	0
Case Pendency	934	684	0	322	0
Slate Mailer Organization Violations					
Number of Cases	4	2	2	0	1
Case Pendency	493	421	238	0	16



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Case Violation Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Statements of Economic Interest					
Number of Cases	471	521	390	926	301
Case Pendency	197	193	178	193	88
Unlawful Honorarium					
Number of Cases	0	0	1	0	0
Case Pendency	0	0	47	0	0
Unlawful Travel Payments, Advances, Reimbursements or Other Expenditures					
Number of Cases	1	0	0	0	0
Case Pendency	505	0	0	0	0

Average Case Pendency (Except Open Cases)*	325	208	199	184	80
Cases Still Open	38	80	280	430	544

*The Average Case Pendency number changes as cases within that category are closed and added to the average.

Legal Division Workload (b-f)

(b) Data collected from the advice phone system.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Advice Calls ¹	9,622	7,270	10,530	7,051	7,258*
Average Wait Time			1 min 4 sec	43 sec	3 min 13 sec
Average Length of Accepted Calls			2 min 4 sec	3 min 50 sec	4 min 45 sec

*Telephone line was shut down mid-March through the end of May due to the stay-at-home order.

(c) Data regarding informal advice issued by email.

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Advice Emails ¹	12,495	9,735	12,911	7,160	12,263
Advice Emails Responded w/ 24 hrs			12,834	6,933	11,395
Advice Emails Responded 24 hrs+			77	227	868



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(d) Data regarding responsiveness to public demand for information.

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Workshop / Presentation Requested ¹	48	35	53	44	43
Workshop / Presentation Performed			51	44	41*

*15 workshops were presented in-person and 26 were presented electronically. Two requested workshops could not be provided electronically.

(e) Data regarding PRA advice letters issued.

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
PRA Advice Letters Issued ¹	195	124	204	172	117
PRA Advice Letters Issued did not satisfy the 21-day requirement of Section 83114 of the Government Code			73	38	19

(f) Data regarding advice letters issued pursuant to Section 1090 of the Government Code.

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1090 Advice Letters Issued ¹	57	85	69	83	43
Advice Letters that took longer than 30 days to Issue			7	3	14
Advice Letters that took longer than 90 days to Issue			0	0	1

¹Note: Data collected prior to 2018 calculated using hand-counting and is best rendition of numbers available. Shaded boxes reflect no data available.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 322-5796.

Sincerely,

Galena West
 Executive Director



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