1102 Q Stre Sacramento	DLUMBEL 1 Counsel ITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSIC ret, Suite 3050	ON	
Attorneys fo	or Complainant		
	BEFORE THE FAIR POLITIC	CAL PR	ACTICES COMMISSION
	STATE OF	CALIF	ORNIA
In the Matte	er of	)	FPPC No.: 23/211
MIG	UEL MAGALLANES	ļ	DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER
	Respondents.		(Government Code Sections 11506 and 11520)
Com	plainant, the Enforcement Division	of the	Fair Political Practices Commission, hereb
submits this	Default Decision and Order for consid	deration	by the Fair Political Practices Commission a
its next regu	larly scheduled meeting.		
	uant to the California Administrative P	rocedur	e Act, <sup>1</sup> Miguel Magallanes ("Magallanes") ha
Purs	• 1 11 0 1 1		duct an administrative hearing regarding th
	with all of the documents necessary	to con	
been served	oned matter, including the following:	to con	
been served		v to con	
been served above-captio	oned matter, including the following:	to con	
been served above-captio 1.	oned matter, including the following: An Order Finding Probable Cause;		pondent);
been served above-captio 1. 2.	oned matter, including the following: An Order Finding Probable Cause; An Accusation;		pondent);

Government Code Section 11506 provides that failure of a respondent to file a Notice of Defense within fifteen days after being served with an Accusation shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing on the merits of the Accusation. The Statement to Respondent, served on Magallanes, stated that a Notice of Defense must be filed in order to request a hearing. Magallanes failed to file a Notice of Defense within fifteen days of being served with an Accusation. Government Code Section 11520 provides that, if the respondent fails to file a Notice of Defense, the Commission may take action, by way of a default, based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence, and that affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to the respondent.

Magallanes violated the Political Reform Act as described in Exhibit 1, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein. Exhibit 1 is a true and accurate summary of the law and evidence in this matter. This Default Decision and Order is submitted to the Commission to obtain a final disposition of this matter.

> James M. Lindsay, Chief of Enforcement Fair Political Practices Commission

# <u>ORDER</u>

The Commission issues this Default Decision and Order and imposes a total administrative penalty of \$12,000 upon Miguel Magallanes, payable to the "General Fund of the State of California." IT IS SO ORDERED, effective upon execution below by the Chair of the Fair Political Practices Commission at Sacramento, California.

Adam E. Silver, Chair
Fair Political Practices Commission

2

Dated:

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

#### EXHIBIT 1

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Respondent Miguel Magallanes ("Magallanes") was appointed as a planning commissioner for the City of Filmore on May 12, 2020 for a four-year term. He is still serving in the position.

The Political Reform Act ("the Act") requires certain public officials, including planning commissioners, to file an annual statement of economic interest ("SEI") disclosing their investments, their interests in real property, and their income during the period.

This matter arose from a commission-initiated investigation regarding potential violations of the Act's SEI provisions.

As an officeholder, Magallanes failed to timely file three Annual SEIs.

## DEFAULT PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT

When the Commission determines that there is probable cause for believing that the Act has been violated, it may hold a hearing to determine if a violation has occurred.<sup>1</sup> Notice of the hearing, and the hearing itself, must be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (the "APA").<sup>2</sup> A hearing to determine whether the Act has been violated is initiated by the filing of an accusation, which shall be a concise written statement of the charges, specifying the statutes and rules which the respondent is alleged to have violated.<sup>3</sup>

Included among the rights afforded a respondent under the APA, is the right to file the Notice of Defense with the Commission within 15 days after service of the accusation, by which the respondent may (1) request a hearing; (2) object to the accusation on the ground it does not state acts or omissions upon which the agency may proceed; (3) object to the form of the accusation on the ground that it is so indefinite or certain that the respondent cannot identify the transaction or prepare a defense; (4) admit the accusation in whole or in part; (5) present new matter by way of a defense; or (6) object to the accusation on the ground that, under the circumstances, compliance with a Commission regulation would result in a material violation of another department's regulation affecting substantive rights.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 83116.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The California Administrative Procedure Act, which governs administrative adjudications, is contained in Sections 11370 through 11529 of the Government Code; Section 83116.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Section 11503.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Section 11506, subd. (a)(1)–(6).

The APA provides that a respondent's failure to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service of an accusation constitutes a waiver of the respondent's right to a hearing.<sup>5</sup> Moreover, when a respondent fails to file a Notice of Defense, the Commission may take action based on the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to the respondent.<sup>6</sup>

#### **PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS AND HISTORY**

#### A. <u>Initiation of the Administrative Action</u>

The service of the probable cause hearing notice, as required by Section 83115.5, upon the person alleged to have violated starts the administrative action.<sup>7</sup>

A finding of probable cause may not be made by the Commission unless the person alleged to have violated the Act is 1) notified of the violation by service of process or registered mail with return receipt requested; 2) provided with a summary of the evidence; and 3) informed of his or her right to be present in person and represented by counsel at any proceeding of the Commission held for the purpose of considering whether probable cause exists for believing the person violated the Act.<sup>8</sup> Additionally, the required notice to the alleged violator shall be deemed made on the date of service, the date the registered mail receipt is signed, or if the registered mail receipt is not signed, the date returned by the post office.<sup>9</sup>

No administrative action pursuant to Chapter 3 of the Act alleging a violation of any of the provisions of the Act may be commenced more than five years after the date on which the violation occurred.<sup>10</sup>

Documents supporting the procedural history are included in the attached Certification of Records ("Certification") filed herewith at Exhibit 1, A-1 through A-6, and incorporated herein by reference.

In accordance with Sections 83115.5 and 91000.5, the Enforcement Division initiated the administrative action against Magallanes in this matter by serving him with a Report in Support of a Finding of Probable Cause (the "Report") (Certification, Exhibit A-1) by certified mail.<sup>11</sup> Magallanes was served with the Report on April 13, 2024. (Certification, Exhibit A-2.) The administrative action commenced on April 13, 2024, and the five-year statute of limitations was effectively tolled on this date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Section 11506, subd. (c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Section 11520, subd. (a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Section 91000.5, subd. (a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Section 83115.5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Section 83115.5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Section 91000.5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Section 83115.5.

As required by Section 83115.5, the packet served on Magallanes contained a cover letter and a memorandum describing probable cause proceedings, advising that Magallanes had 21 days in which to request a probable cause conference and/or to file a written response to the Report. Magallanes did not request a probable cause conference or submit a written response to the Report.

# B. <u>Ex Parte Request for a Finding of Probable Cause</u>

Because Magallanes failed to request a probable cause conference or submit a written response to the Report by the statutory deadline, the Enforcement Division submitted an Ex Parte Request for a Finding of Probable Cause and an Order that an Accusation Be Prepared and Served to the Hearing Officer of the Commission on May 8, 2024 (Certification, Exhibit A-3.)

On May 23, 2024, the Hearing Officer, John Feser, issued a Finding of Probable Cause and an Order to Prepare and Serve an Accusation on Magallanes. (Certification, Exhibit A-4.)

# C. <u>The Issuance and Service of the Accusation</u>

Under the Act, if the Hearing Officer makes a finding of probable cause, the Enforcement Division must prepare an accusation pursuant to Section 11503 of the APA, and have it served on the persons who are the subject of the probable cause finding.<sup>12</sup>

Section 11503 states:

A hearing to determine whether a right, authority, license, or privilege should be revoked, suspended, limited, or conditioned shall be initiated by filing an accusation or District Statement of Reduction in Force. The accusation or District Statement of Reduction in Force shall be a written statement of charges that shall set forth in ordinary and concise language the acts or omissions with which the respondent is charged, to the end that the respondent will be able to prepare his or her defense. It shall specify the statutes and rules that the respondent is alleged to have violated, but shall not consist merely of charges phrased in the language of those statutes and rules. The accusation or District Statement of Reduction in Force shall be verified unless made by a public officer acting in his or her official capacity or by an employee of the agency before which the proceeding is to be held. The verification may be on information and belief.

Upon the filing of the accusation, the agency must 1) serve a copy thereof on the respondent as provided in Section 11505, subdivision (c); 2) include a post card or other form entitled Notice of Defense that, when signed by or on behalf of the respondent and returned to the agency, will acknowledge service of the accusation and constitute a notice of defense under Section 11506; 3) include (i) a statement that respondent may request a hearing by filing a notice of defense as provided in Section 11506 within 15 days after service upon the respondent of the accusation, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Regulation 18361.4, subd. (g).

that failure to do so will constitute a waiver of the respondent's right to a hearing, and (ii) copies of Sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7.<sup>13</sup> The APA also sets forth the language required in the accompanying statement to the respondent.<sup>14</sup>

The Accusation and accompanying information may be sent to the respondent by any means selected by the agency, but no order adversely affecting the rights of the respondent may be made by the agency in any case unless the respondent has been served personally or by registered mail as set forth in the APA.<sup>15</sup>

On July 19, 2024, the Commission's Chief of Enforcement, James Lindsay, issued an Accusation against Magallanes. (Certification, Exhibit A-5.) In accordance with Section 11505, the Accusation and accompanying information, consisting of a Statement to Respondent, two copies of a Notice of Defense Form for each respondent, copies of Government Code Sections 11506, 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7, we served upon Magallanes on July 24, 2024.

Along with the Accusation, the Enforcement Division served Magallanes with a "Statement to Respondent," which notified them that they could request a hearing on the merits and warned that, unless a Notice of Defense was filed within 15 days of service of the Accusation, they would be deemed to have waived the right to a hearing. (Certification, Exhibit A-6.) Magallanes did not file a Notice of Defense within the statutory time period, which ended on August 8, 2024.

As a result, on September 23, 2024, the Enforcement Division sent a letter to Magallanes advising that this matter would be submitted for a Default Decision and Order at the Commission's public meeting scheduled for September . (Certification, Exhibit A-11.)

On October 24, 2024, the Enforcement Division sent another letter to Magallanes advising that this matter would be submitted for a Default Decision and Order at the Commission's public meeting scheduled for October. (Certification, Exhibit A-12.) A copy of the Default Decision and Order, and this accompanying Exhibit 1 with attachments, was included with the letter.

#### **SUMMARY OF THE LAW**

The Act and its regulations are amended from time to time. The violations in this case occurred between 2021 and 2023. For this reason, all legal references and discussions of law pertain to the Act's provisions as they existed at that time.

An express purpose of the Act is to promote transparency by ensuring that assets and income of public officials which may be materially affected by their official actions be disclosed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Section 11505, subd. (a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Section 11505, subd. (b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Section 11505, subd. (c).

so that conflicts of interests may be avoided.<sup>16</sup> Another purpose is to provide adequate enforcement mechanisms so that the Act will be "vigorously enforced."<sup>17</sup>

The Act requires every person who holds an office specified in Section 87200, including planning commissioners, to annually file a statement disclosing their investments, their interests in real property, and their income by filing a statement of economic interests ("SEI") by April 1 of each year.<sup>18</sup> When April 1 falls on a weekend or holiday, the filing deadline is extended to the next regular business day.<sup>19</sup>

#### SUMMARY OF THE EVIDENCE

Documents supporting the summary of the evidence are included in the attached Certification of Records ("Certification") filed herewith as Certified, Exhibit 1, A-7 through A-10 and incorporated herein by reference.

Magallanes was appointed as a planning commissioner to the City of Filmore on May 12, 2020, for a four-year term. He is currently serving in the position. (Certification, Exhibit A-7.) Magallanes filed an Assuming Office SEI timely on June 10, 2020. (Certification, Exhibit A-8.)

Magallanes was required to timely file a 2020 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2021 deadline. The SEI Unit of the Commission notified Magallanes two times in writing on June 25, 2021 and August 4, 2021 of his obligation to file a 2020 Annual SEI. (Certification, Exhibit A-9.)

Magallanes was required to timely file a 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 deadline. The SEI Unit notified Magallanes two times in writing on June 30, 2022 and August 4, 2022 of his obligation to file a 2021 Annual SEI. (Certification, Exhibit A-10.)

The SEI Unit Referred the matter to the Enforcement Division after Magallanes failed to respond to requests or file outstanding SEIs.

Magallanes was required to timely file a 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 deadline. To date, Magallanes have not filed any outstanding SEIs.

Magallanes failed to timely file the following Annual SEIs.

Type of Statement	Date Due	Date Filed
2020 Annual	4/1/2021	Not filed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Section 81002, subd. (c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Section 81002, subd. (f).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Sections 87200 and 87203; Regulation 18723, subdivision (b)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Regulation 18116, subdivision (a).

Type of Statement	Date Due	Date Filed
2021 Annual	4/1/2022	Not filed
2022 Annual	4/3/2023	Not filed

### Summary of Contact

The Enforcement Division contacted Magallanes multiple times regarding the investigation. At one point, Magallanes engaged in the process but ultimately failed to come into compliance.

Overall, the Enforcement Division contacted Magallanes approximately eleven times throughout this case, as follows:

- March 28, 2023: email from Enforcement Division regarding his case
- April 20, 2023: email from Enforcement Division regarding his case. Magallanes engaged in discussions
- September 11, 2023: email from Enforcement Division regarding his case
- November 3, 2023: email from Enforcement Division regarding his case
- February 8, 2024: email from Enforcement Division regarding his case
- February 9, 2024: voice mail left from Enforcement Division
- February 20, 2024: voice mail left from Enforcement Division
- February 20, 2024: email from Enforcement Division regarding his case
- March 4, 2024: voice mail left from Enforcement Division
- ..., 2024: letter to Magallanes informing them that a Default Decision and Order would appear on the agenda for the October 17, 2024 Commission meeting as a notice item
- ..., 2024: Notice of Intent to Enter Default Decision and Order to Magallanes informing them that the Default Decision and Order would be presented at the November 21, 20 meeting for Commission action

## VIOLATIONS

Magallanes committed three violations of the Act as follows:

# COUNT 1

## Failure to Timely File a 2020 Annual SEI

Magallanes had a duty to timely file his 2020 Annual SEI, due on April 1, 2021. By failing to timely file his 2020 Annual SEI, due on April 1, 2021, Magallanes violated Government Code Sections 87200 and 87203.

#### COUNT 2

#### Failure to Timely File a 2021 Annual SEI

Magallanes had a duty to timely file his 2021 Annual SEI, due on April 1, 2022. By failing to timely file his 2021 Annual SEI, due on April 1, 2022, Magallanes violated Government Code Section 87200 and 87203.

#### COUNT 3

#### Failure to Timely File a 2022 Annual SEI

Magallanes had a duty to timely file his 2022 Annual SEI, due on April 3, 2023. By failing to timely file his 2022 Annual SEI, due on April 3, 2023, Magallanes violated Government Code Section 87200 and 87203.

#### CONCLUSION

This matter consists of 3 counts of violating the Act, which carry a maximum total administrative penalty of \$15,000.<sup>20</sup>

In determining the appropriate penalty for a particular violation of the Act, the Enforcement Division considers the typical treatment of a violation in the overall statutory scheme of the Act, with an emphasis on serving the purposes and intent of the Act. Additionally, the Enforcement Division considers the facts and circumstances of the violation in the context of the following factors set forth in Regulation 18361.5 subdivision (e)(1) through (8): (1) The extent and gravity of the public harm caused by the specific violation; (2) The level of experience of the violator with the requirements of the Political Reform Act; (3) Penalties previously imposed by the Commission in comparable cases; (4) The presence or absence of any intention to conceal, deceive or mislead; (5) Whether the violation was deliberate, negligent or inadvertent; (6) Whether the violator demonstrated good faith by consulting the Commission staff or any other governmental agency in a manner not constituting complete defense under Government Code Section 83114(b); (7) Whether the violation was isolated or part of a pattern and whether the violator has a prior record of violations of the Political Reform Act or similar laws; and (8) Whether the violator, upon learning of a reporting violation, voluntarily filed amendments to provide full disclosure.<sup>21</sup>

In this matter, Magallanes failed to timely file three Annual SEIs for his position as a planning commissioner to the City of Filmore.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Section 83116, subd. (c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Regulation 18361.5, subd. (e).

Here, failure to file annual SEIs deprives the public of important information about a public official's economic interests which could lead to potential conflicts of interests regarding decisions they make in their official capacity. Magallanes has failed to file the missing SEIs, despite repeated outreach attempts. Magallanes's violations deprived the public of important and timely information regarding his economic interests, and he has not filed these SEIs to date.

Magallanes has been a planning commissioner since 2020, he is currently in office, and he is aware that the Act required filing of SEIs as he filed his Assuming Office SEI.

Magallanes has no prior record of violations of the Act for statements of economic interests violations.

The Enforcement Division also takes into consideration previous cases that were approved by the Commission in determining penalties. In this matter, the following cases were used as guidelines.

# <u>Count 1-3</u>

• In the Matter of Lola Skelton, FPPC No. 16/19779. (The Commission approved a default decision on February 15, 2018.) The respondent failed to timely file two SEIs despite being contacted several times regarding this matter. Despite being in office at the time of the default decision, she failed to file the outstanding SEIs. In addition, the respondent had a prior history of noncompliance and paid a fine in a prior case. The Commission imposed a penalty of \$5,000 per count, \$10,000 in total for this violation.

This case is similar to the present matter as Magallanes is well aware of his obligation to file SEIs, he is still in office, and has failed to file despite multiple requests for compliance from the SEI Unit and the Enforcement Division. This case is distinguishable because Magallanes does not have a prior history of noncompliance. Therefore, a lesser default penalty amount is recommended.

# **PROPOSED PENALTY**

After considering the factors of Regulation 18361.5 and the penalties imposed in prior cases, the following penalties are proposed:

Counts	Violations: Magallanes	Proposed Penalty per Count
1-3	Failure to Timely File an Annual Statement of Economic Interest	\$4,000
	Total:	\$12,000



# DECLARATION OF CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS CALIFORNIA FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION Enforcement Division

# **CERTIFICATION OF RECORDS**

The undersigned declares and certifies as follows:

- 1. I am employed as an Associate Governmental Program Analyst by the California Fair Political Practices Commission (Commission). My business address is: California Fair Political Practices Commission, 1102 Q St, Ste 3050, Sacramento, CA 95811.
- 2. I am a duly authorized custodian of the records maintained by the Commission in the Enforcement Division. As such, I am authorized to certify copies of those records as being true and correct copies of the original business records which are in the custody of the Commission.
- 3. I have reviewed documents maintained in *FPPC Case No. 23/211; Miguel Magallanes* and have caused copies to be made of documents contained therein. I certify that the copies attached hereto are true and correct copies of the documents prepared in the normal course of business and which are contained in files maintained by the Commission. The attached documents are as follows:
- EXHIBIT A-1: Report in Support of a Finding of Probable Cause, dated March 26, 2024
- EXHIBIT A-2: Proof of Service for the Report in Support of a Finding of Probable Cause and applicable statutes and regulations, dated March 26, 2024, and accompanying certified mail receipts, and USPS tracking
- EXHIBIT A-3: Ex Parte Request for a Finding of Probable Cause and an Order that an Accusation Be Prepared and Served, dated May 8, 2024
- EXHIBIT A-4: Finding of Probable Cause and Order to Prepare and Serve an Accusation, dated May 23, 2024
- EXHIBIT A-5: Accusation, dated July 19, 2024

EXHIBIT A-6:	Proof of Service for Accusation and accompanying documents from process server, dated July 24, 2024
EXHIBIT A-7:	City of Filmore, Planning Commission Agenda, August 21, 2024
EXHIBIT A-8:	Assuming Office SEI, filed June 10, 2020
EXHIBIT A-9:	June 25, 2021 and August 4, 2021 Notifications from FPPC for outstanding 2020 Annual SEI.
EXHIBIT A-10:	June 30 2022 and August 4, 2022 Notifications from FPPC for outstanding 2021 Annual SEI.
EXHIBIT A-11:	Notice of Default Decision and Order, dated September 23, 2024
EXHIBIT A-12:	Notice of Intent to Enter Default Decision and Order, dated October 23, 2024.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed October 23, 2024, at Sacramento, California.

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Shaina Elkin Associate Governmental Program Analyst Enforcement Division Fair Political Practices Commission

Exhibit A-1

1 2 3 4	JAMES M. LINDSAY Chief of Enforcement LAURA COLUMBEL Commission Counsel <b>FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSIO</b> 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050 Sacramento, CA 95811 Telephone: (279) 237-5974	N
5 6 7	Email: lcolumbel@fppc.ca.gov Attorneys for Complainant Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices	s Commission
, 8 9 10		AL PRACTICES COMMISSION CALIFORNIA
11 12	In the Matter of	FPPC No. 2023-00211 REPORT IN SUPPORT OF A FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE
<ol> <li>13</li> <li>14</li> <li>15</li> <li>16</li> </ol>	MIGUEL MAGALLANES, Respondent.	) Conference Date: TBA ) Conference Time: TBA ) Conference Location: Commission Offices 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050 Sacramento, CA 95811
17		) ) )
18 19	INTROI	DUCTION
20	Respondent, Miguel Magallanes ("Magallar	nes"), was appointed as planning commissioner to
21	the City of Filmore for a four-year term on May 12, 2020 and is currently still serving in the position.	
22	The Political Reform Act (the "Act") <sup>1</sup> requires public officials, including planning	
23	commissioners, to disclose their reportable econom	ic interests on a Statement of Economic Interests
24	("SEI") at various times pursuant to the Commission	n's regulations. Magallanes violated the Act by
25 26 27	<sup>1</sup> The Political Reform Act is contained in Governme to this code. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Co the California Code of Regulations, and all regulatory referen	nt Code §§ 81000 through 91014, and all statutory references are mmission are contained in §§ 18104 through 18998 of Title 2 of ces are to this source.
28		NDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE No. 2023-00211

failing to timely file a 2020 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2021 due date, a 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 due date, and a 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 due date for his position as planning commissioner to the City of Filmore.

#### SUMMARY OF THE LAW

The Act and its regulations are amended from time to time. The discussion below regarding jurisdiction, the standard for finding probable cause, and the contents of the probable cause report includes references to current law. Unless otherwise noted, all other legal references and discussions of law pertain to the Act's provisions as they existed at the time of the violations in this case.

#### **Jurisdiction and Probable Cause Proceedings**

The Fair Political Practices Commission (the "Commission") has primary responsibility for the impartial, effective administration and implementation of the Act.<sup>2</sup> This includes enforcement through administrative prosecution.<sup>3</sup> However, before the Commission's Enforcement Division may commence administrative prosecution by filing/serving an Accusation, a hearing officer (either the General Counsel of the Commission or another attorney in the Commission's Legal Division) must determine whether there is probable cause that supports a reasonable belief or strong suspicion that one or more violations of the Act occurred.<sup>4</sup> Any finding of probable cause is required by law to be announced publicly, which includes the posting of a summary of the allegations on the Commission's website.<sup>5</sup> After a finding of probable cause, the Commission may then hold a hearing to determine what violations have occurred—and levy an administrative penalty of up to \$5,000 for each violation.<sup>6</sup>

#### Standard for Finding Probable Cause

For the hearing officer to make a finding of probable cause, it is only necessary that he or she be presented with evidence that sufficiently supports a reasonable belief or strong suspicion that the Act

<sup>2</sup> Section 83111.
<sup>3</sup> Section 83116.
<sup>4</sup> Sections 83115.5 and 83116; Regulations 18361, subd. (b), and 18361.4.
<sup>5</sup> Regulation 18361.4, subd. (g).
<sup>6</sup> Gradient 18361.4, subd. (g).

<sup>6</sup> Section 83116; Regulation 18361.4, subd. (g).

#### REPORT IN SUPPORT OF FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE FPPC Case No. 2023-00211

has been violated.<sup>7</sup> Probable cause may only be found if the Respondents were notified of the violations at least 21 days prior to the hearing officer's consideration of the alleged violations.<sup>8</sup>

# Contents of the Probable Cause Report

The probable cause report is required to contain a summary of the law and evidence that supports a finding of probable cause that each alleged violation of the Act has occurred, as well as a description of any exculpatory evidence indicating a violation alleged in the report did not occur. The evidence recited in the probable cause report may include hearsay.<sup>9</sup>

# Need for Liberal Construction and Vigorous Enforcement of the Political Reform Act

When enacting the Act, the people of California found and declared that previous laws regulating political practices suffered from inadequate enforcement by state and local authorities.<sup>10</sup> For this reason, the Act is to be construed liberally to accomplish its purposes.<sup>11</sup>

One purpose of the Act is to promote transparency by ensuring that assets and income of public officials which may be materially affected by their official actions be disclosed so that conflicts of interests may be avoided.<sup>12</sup> Another purpose of the Act is to provide adequate enforcement mechanisms so that the Act will be "vigorously enforced."<sup>13</sup>

# Section 87200 Applicability and Annual Statements

<sup>7</sup> Regulation 18361.4, subd. (a).

<sup>9</sup> Regulation 18361.4, subd. (b). <sup>10</sup> Section 81001, subd. (h).

<sup>12</sup> Section 81002, subd. (c).

<sup>13</sup> Section 81002, subd. (f).
 <sup>14</sup> Regulation 87203.

<sup>15</sup> Regulation 18723, subd. (b)(3).

<sup>8</sup> Section 83115.5.

<sup>11</sup> Section 81003.

Every person who holds an office specified in Section 87200, including planning commissioners, shall, each year, file a statement disclosing their investments, their interests in real property and their income during the period.<sup>14</sup> The filing due date for the annual statements for a planning commissioner shall be April 1.<sup>15</sup> If a statement or report is required to be filed before or on a specified date, and the filing deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or official state holiday, the filing

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#### 3 REPORT IN SUPPORT OF FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE FPPC Case No. 2023-00211

deadline for the statement or report shall be extended to the next regular business day.<sup>16</sup> Any person who violates any provision of the Act is liable for administrative penalties up to \$5,000 per violation.<sup>17</sup>

#### SUMMARY OF THE EVIDENCE

Magallanes was appointed as planning commissioner to the City of Filmore for a four-year term on May 11, 2020. To date, Magallanes continues to hold his position as planning commissioner according to the City of Filmore Planning Commission official website. According to records maintained by the SEI Unit of the Commission, Magallanes failed to timely file his 2020 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2021 due date, 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 due date, and 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 due date.

The SEI Unit of the Commission contacted Magallanes four times in writing between June 25, 2021 and August 4, 2022 to remind Magallanes of his filing obligations. After not receiving compliance from Magallanes regarding his outstanding SEIs, the SEI Unit referred the matter to the Commission's Enforcement Division.

The Commission's Enforcement Division contacted Magallanes at least five times in writing and left three voice messages between March 3, 2023 and March 4, 2024 to remind Magallanes of his outstanding Annual SEI filing obligations. Magallanes accepted a Political Reform Education Program ("PREP") agreement on April 19, 2023 but subsequently failed PREP on July 17, 2023 for not completing the program. Other than as noted, Magallanes has failed to respond to any communication from the Enforcement Division.

As of the date of this Report, Magallanes has not filed these SEIs in connection to his role as planning commissioner to the City of Filmore.

## VIOLATIONS.

Count 1: Failure to Timely File 2020 Annual Statement of Economic Interest

<sup>16</sup> Section 81005, subd. (a).
<sup>17</sup> Sections 83116 and 83116.5.

1	Magallanes failed to timely file his 2020 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2021 due date, in violation
2	of Government Code Section 87300.
3	Count 2: Failure to Timely File 2021 Annual Statement of Economic Interest
4	Magallanes failed to timely file his 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 due date, in violation
5	of Government Code Section 87300.
6	Count 3: Failure to Timely File 2022 Annual Statement of Economic Interest
7	Magallanes failed to timely file his 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 due date, in violation
8	of Government Code Section 87300.
9	EXCULPATORY INFORMATION
10	The Enforcement Division is not aware of any exculpatory evidence at the present time.
11	OTHER RELEVANT EVIDENCE
12	Magallanes is aware of his filing obligations due to his position as planning commissioner to the
13	City of Filmore as he filed an Assuming Office SEI on June 10, 2020.
14	CONCLUSION
15	Probable cause exists to believe that Magallanes violated the Act as detailed above. The
16	Enforcement Division respectfully requests an order finding probable cause pursuant to Section
17	83115.5 and Regulation 18361.4.
18	
19	Dated: <u>March 26, 2024</u>
20	Respectfully Submitted,
21	FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
22	James M. Lindsay Chief of Enforcement
23	
24	Laura Columbel
25	By: Laura Columbel Commission Counsel
26	Enforcement Division
27	5
28	REPORT IN SUPPORT OF FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE FPPC Case No. 2023-00211

Exhibit A-2

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

At the time of service, I was over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. My business address is Fair Political Practices Commission, 428 J Street, Suite 620, Sacramento, California 95814. On March 28, 2024, I served the following document(s):

- 1. Letter dated March 26, 2024, from Laura Columbel;
- 2. FPPC No. 23/00211 Report in Support of a Finding of Probable Cause;
- 3. Probable Cause Fact Sheet
- 4. Selected Sections of the California Government Code regarding Probable Cause Proceedings for the Fair Political Practices Commission; and
- Selected Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission regarding Probable Cause Proceedings

<u>By United States Postal Service</u>. I enclosed the document(s) in a sealed envelope or package addressed to the person(s) at the addresses listed below and placed the envelope or package for collection and mailing by certified mail, return receipt requested, following my company's ordinary business practices. I am readily familiar with this business' practice for collection and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. On the same day that correspondence is placed for collection and mailing, it is deposited in the ordinary course of business with the United States Postal Service, in a sealed envelope with postage fully prepaid.

I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail in Sacramento County, California.

#### SERVICE LIST

Miguel Magallanes

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct. Executed on March 28, 2024.

Inderson-Wise



10

# Tracking Number: 9589071052700589140132

Copy 🛠 Add to Informed Delivery

# Latest Update

Your item was delivered to an individual at the address at 12:03 pm on April 13, 2024 in FILLMORE, CA 93015.

Get More Out of USPS Tracking:

C USPS Tracking Plus®

# Remove X

# Delivered

#### Delivered, Left with Individual

FILLMORE, CA 93015 April 13, 2024, 12:03 pm

# Notice Left (No Authorized Recipient Available)

FILLMORE, CA 93015 April 13, 2024, 12:01 pm

## Redelivery Scheduled FILLMORE, CA 93015 April 12, 2024

Reminder to Schedule Redelivery of your item April 8, 2024

Notice Left (No Authorized Recipient Available) FILLMORE, CA 93015 April 2, 2024, 1:25 pm

Arrived at USPS Regional Facility SANTA BARBARA CA DISTRIBUTION CENTER March 31, 2024, 4:05 pm

Hide Tracking History

What Do USPS Tracking Statuses Mean?

Exhibit A-3

1	JAMES M. LINDSAY Chief of Enforcement			
2	LAURA COLUMBEL Commission Counsel			
3	FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050			
4	Sacramento, CA 95811 Telephone: (279) 237-5974			
5	Email: lcolumbel@fppc.ca.gov			
6	Attorneys for Complainant Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices C	ommission		
7	BEFORE THE FAIR POLITICAI	PRACTICES COMMISSION		
8	STATE OF CA	LIFORNIA		
9				
10	In the Matter of	FPPC No. 2023-00211		
11	MIGUEL MAGALLANES,	EX PARTE REQUEST FOR A FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE AND AN ORDER THAT		
12		AN ACCUSATION BE PREPARED AND SERVED		
13	Respondent.	Gov. Code § 83115.5		
14				
15	TO THE HEARING OFFICER OF THE FA	IR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION:		
16	Pursuant to Section 83115.5 of the Political	Reform Act (the "Act") <sup>1</sup> and Regulation 18361.4,		
17	Respondent Miguel Magallanes ("Magallanes") was se	erved with a copy of a report in support of a finding		
18	of probable cause ("PC Report") in the above-entitled matter. <sup>2</sup> The PC Report, attached as "Exhibit A,"			
19	was part of a packet of materials, including a cover letter, a memorandum describing probable cause			
20	proceedings, and a probable cause checklist form, which was sent to Magallanes on March 28, 2024 by			
21	certified mail, with return receipt requested, and was o	delivered on April 13, 2024. A copy of the proof of		
22	service, certified return receipt, and USPS tracking log	g is attached as "Exhibit B."		
23				
24	<sup>1</sup> The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code §§	81000 through 91014, and all statutory references are to this		
25	code. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commissio California Code of Regulations, and all regulatory references are	n are contained in §§ 18104 through 18998 of Title 2 of the		
26	<sup>2</sup> Gov. Code § 83115.5; Cal. Code Reg., tit. 2, § 18361.4.			
27	EX PARTE REQUEST FOR A FINDING OF PROBAE FPPC NO. 20			

1	In the cover letter dated March 26, 2024, and the attached materials, Magallanes was advised that
2	he could respond in writing to the PC Report and orally present the case to the Hearing Officer at a
3	probable cause conference to be held in Sacramento. Magallanes was further advised that in order to have
4	a probable cause conference he needed to make a written request for one within 21 days of the date he
5	received the PC Report, or the date requested records were sent by the Enforcement Division.
6	Additionally, Magallanes was advised that if he did not request a probable cause conference, such a
7	conference would not be held and probable cause would be determined based solely on the PC Report and
8	any written response that he submitted within 21 days of the date he was served with the PC Report, or
9	the date requested records were sent by the Enforcement Division. To date, Magallanes has not submitted
10	a written response or requested a probable cause conference.
11	WHEREFORE, based on the attached PC Report, the Enforcement Division requests a finding by
12	the Hearing Officer that probable cause exists to believe that the Respondent committed three violations
13	of the Act, stated as follows:
14	<u>Count 1</u> : Magallanes failed to timely file his 2020 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2021 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.
15 16	<u>Count 2</u> : Magallanes failed to timely file his 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.
17	<u>Count 3</u> : Magallanes failed to timely file his 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.
18	Additionally, after finding probable cause exists, the Enforcement Division requests an order by
19	the Hearing Officer that an accusation be prepared against Magallanes and served upon him. <sup>3</sup>
20	///
21	///
22	///
23	///
24	
25	<sup>3</sup> Gov. Code § 11503.
26	2
27	EX PARTE REQUEST FOR A FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE AND AN ORDER RE: ACCUSATION FPPC NO. 2023-00211
28	

1	A copy of this Request was mailed via U.S. Mail to Magallanes on May 9, 2024 at the last known
2	address, as follows:
3	
4	Miguel Magallanes 250 E Telegraph Rd.
5	Space 227 Fillmore, CA 93015
6	
7	Dated: <u>5/8/2024</u> Respectfully Submitted,
8	
9	FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION James M. Lindsay
10	Chief of Enforcement
11	
12	Laura Columbel
13	By: Laura Columbel
14	Commission Counsel Enforcement Division
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27	3 EX PARTE REQUEST FOR A FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE AND AN ORDER RE: ACCUSATION
28	FPPC NO. 2023-00211

Exhibit A-4

# BEFORE THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of

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MIGUEL MAGALLANES,

Respondent.

) FPPC No. 2023-00211

) FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE AND ORDER TO PREPARE AND SERVE AN ACCUSATION

Gov. Code § 83115.5

9 By means of an Ex Parte Request for a Finding of Probable Cause and an Order that an Accusation 10 Be Prepared and Served, dated May 8, 2024, the Enforcement Division submitted the above-entitled matter to the Hearing Officer for a determination of Probable Cause. As set forth in the Ex Parte Request 11 12 for a Finding of Probable Cause and an Order that an Accusation Be Prepared and Served ("Ex Parte 13 Request"), the Enforcement Division served a Report in Support of a Finding of Probable Cause ("PC Report") on Respondent Miguel Magallanes ("Magallanes") on April 13, 2024 by certified mail, return 14 receipt requested. Accompanying the PC Report was a packet of materials that informed the Respondent 15 of his right to file a written response to the PC Report and to request a probable cause conference within 16 21 days following service of the PC Report, or transmittal of any requested records by the Enforcement 17 Division. During the 21 days that followed service of the PC Report, Respondent did not file a response 18 19 to the PC Report, request records, or request a probable cause conference. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations title 2, section 18361.4, <sup>1</sup> determination of probable cause may be made solely on papers 2021 submitted when the respondent does not request a probable cause conference.

22 23 24

In making a probable cause determination, it is the duty of the Hearing Officer of the Fair Political Practices Commission to determine whether probable cause exists to believe that a respondent violated the Political Reform Act as alleged by the Enforcement Division in the PC Report served on the 25 respondent.

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The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations.

1	Probable cause to believe a violation has occurred can be found to exist when "the evidence
2	sufficiently supports a reasonable belief or strong suspicion that the Act has been violated." <sup>2</sup>
3	The PC Report served on Respondent Magallanes and the subsequent Ex Parte Request in this
4	matter alleges three violations of the Political Reform Act were committed, as follows:
5	Count 1: Magallanes failed to timely file his 2020 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2021 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.
6 7	Count 2: Magallanes failed to timely file his 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.
8	Count 3: Magallanes failed to timely file his 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.
9	Based on the Ex Parte Request given to me, I find that notice has been given to Magallanes. <sup>3</sup> I
10	further find, based on the PC Report and the Ex Parte Request, that there is probable cause to believe that
11	Magallanes violated the Political Reform Act as alleged in Counts 1-3, as identified above.
12	I therefore direct that the Enforcement Division issue an accusation against Magallanes in
13	accordance with this finding.
14	IT IS SO ORDERED.
15	
16	
17	Dated: May 23, 2024
18	Hearing Officer Fair Political Practices Commission
19	Ex (
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23	
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25	
26	
27	<sup>2</sup> Cal. Code Reg., tit. 2, § 18361.4, subd. (a). <sup>3</sup> Government Code § 83115.5; Cal. Code Reg., tit. 2, §18361.4, subd. (c).
28	2 FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE AND ORDER TO PREPARE AND SERVE AN ACCUSATION
	FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE AND ORDER TO PREPARE AND SERVE AN ACCUSATION FPPC NO. 2022-00007

#### FPPC No. 2023-00211, In the matter of Miguel Magallanes

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

At the time of service, I was over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. My business address is Fair Political Practices Commission, 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050, Sacramento, CA 95811. On the date below, I served the following document:

#### FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE AND ORDER TO PREPARE AND SERVE AN ACCUSATION

#### MANNER OF SERVICE

**(U.S. Mail)** By causing a true copy thereof to be served on the parties in this action through the U.S. Mail and addressed as listed below. I am familiar with the procedure of the Fair Political Practices Commission for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service, and the fact that the correspondence would be deposited with the United States Postal Service that same day in the ordinary course of business.

#### SERVICE LIST

Miguel Magallanes

(By Personal Service) On Thursday, May 23, 2024, at approximately 3:00 p.m., I personally served:

Laura Columbel, Commission Counsel, at 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050, Sacramento, CA 95811.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct and that this document is executed at Sacramento, California, on May 23, 2024.

Sasha Linker

Exhibit A-5

1	JAMES M. LINDSAY		
2	Chief of Enforcement LAURA COLUMBEL Commission Counsel		
3	Commission Counsel FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION 1102 Q St, Suite 3050		
4	Sacramento, CA 95811 Telephone: (279) 237-5974		
5	Email: LColumbel@fppc.ca.gov		
6 7	Attorneys for Complainant Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission		
8			
9	BEFORE THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION		
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11	In the Matter of:	) FPPC No. 23/211	
12			
13	MIGUEL MAGALLANES	ACCUSATION	
14	Respondents.		
15	Kespondents.	) (Gov. Code §11503)	
16		)	
17		)	
18	Complainant, the Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission, after a finding		
19	of probable cause pursuant to Government Code Section 83115.5, alleges the following:		
20	JURISDICTION		
21	1. Complainant is the Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (the		
22	"Commission") and makes this Accusation in its official capacity and in the public interest.		
23	2. The authority to bring this action is derived from Title 2, California Code of Regulations,		
24	Sections 18361 and 18361.4, subdivision (g), and the statutory law of the State of California, specifically		
25	including, but not limited to, Government Code Sections 83111, 83116, and 91000.5, which assign to the		
26	Enforcement Division the duty to administer, implement, and enforce the provisions of the Political		
27	Reform Act, found at Government Code Sections 81000 through 91014.		
28	///		
	1 ACCUSATION		

When enacting the Political Reform Act (the "Act"),<sup>1</sup> California voters specifically found 3. and declared that previous laws regulating political practices had suffered from inadequate enforcement, 2 and it was their purpose to ensure that the Act be vigorously enforced.<sup>2</sup> 3

To that end, Section 81003 requires that the Act be liberally construed to achieve its 4. 4 5 purposes.

5. One of the stated purposes of the Act is to promote transparency by ensuring that assets and income of public officials which may be materially affected by their official actions be disclosed so that conflicts of interests may be avoided.<sup>3</sup> Another purpose is to provide adequate enforcement mechanisms so that the Act will be "vigorously enforced."4

**RESPONDENTS** 

6. Respondent, Miguel Magallanes ("Magallanes"), was appointed as a planning commissioner to the City of Filmore on May 12, 2020, for a four-year term. He is currently serving in the position.

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# APPLICABLE LAW

7. All applicable law in this Accusation is the law as it existed during the relevant time for the violations alleged.

#### **Duty to Timely File Annual Statements of Economic Interest** A.

8. The Act requires every person who holds an office specified in Section 87200, including planning commissioners, to annually file a statement disclosing their investments, their interests in real property, and their income by filing a statement of economic interests ("SEI") by April 1 of each year.<sup>5</sup> When April 1 falls on a weekend or holiday, the filing deadline is extended to the next regular business day.<sup>6</sup> Failure to comply with the disclosure requirements is a violation of the Act.<sup>7</sup>

23

//

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18104 through 18998 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations. <sup>2</sup> Sections 81001, subd. (h), and 81002, subd. (f). 26

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Section 81002, subd. (c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Section 81002, subd. (f).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Sections 87200 and 87203; Regulation 18723, subdivision (b)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Regulation 18116, subdivision (a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Section 87200.

# B. Factors to be Considered by the Fair Political Practices Commission

9. In framing a proposed order following a finding of a violation pursuant to Government Code Section 83116, the Commission and the administrative law judge shall consider all the surrounding circumstances including but not limited to the following factors set forth in Regulation 18361.5 subdivision (e)(1) through (8): (1) The extent and gravity of the public harm caused by the specific violation; (2) The level of experience of the violator with the requirements of the Political Reform Act; (3) Penalties previously imposed by the Commission in comparable cases; (4) The presence or absence of any intention to conceal, deceive or mislead; (5) Whether the violation was deliberate, negligent or inadvertent; (6) Whether the violator demonstrated good faith by consulting the Commission staff or any other governmental agency in a manner not constituting complete defense under Government Code Section 83114(b); (7) Whether the violation was isolated or part of a pattern and whether the violator has a prior record of violations of the Political Reform Act or similar laws; and (8) Whether the violator, upon learning of a reporting violation, voluntarily filed amendments to provide full disclosure.<sup>8</sup>

# **GENERAL FACTS**

10. Magallanes was appointed as a planning commissioner to the City of Filmore on May 12,2020, for a four-year term. He is currently serving in the position.

11. Magallanes failed to timely file a 2020 Annual SEI by April 1, 2021 deadline.

12. The SEI Unit of the Commission notified Magallanes two times in writing on June 25,2021 and August 4, 2021 of his obligation to file a 2020 Annual SEI.

Magallanes failed to timely file a 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 deadline.
 The SEI Unit of the Commission notified Magallanes two times in writing on June 30,

2022 and August 4, 2022 of his obligation to file a 2021 Annual SEI.

15. Magallanes failed to respond to the requests or file his outstanding SEIs. The SEI Unit referred the matter to the Enforcement Division.

16. Magallanes failed to timely file his 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 deadline.

<sup>8</sup>Regulation 18361.5, subdivision (e).

17. The Enforcement Division made multiple attempts to obtain compliance. On March 28, 2023; April 20, 2023; September 11, 2023; November 3, 2023; and February 20, 2024, the Enforcement Division tried to contact Magallanes via email and left three voice messages on February 9, 2024, February 20, 2024, and March 4, 2024. Other than responding on April 19, 2023, Magallanes was unresponsive to these contacts.

To date, Magallanes has not filed any outstanding SEIs.

18.

# PROCEDURAL HISTORY

19. The Enforcement Division initiated an administrative action against Magallanes in this matter by serving a packet containing a cover letter, a Report in Support of a Finding of Probable Cause ("PC Report"), a fact sheet regarding probable cause proceedings, selected sections of the Government Code regarding probable cause proceedings for the Commission, and selected regulations of the Commission regarding probable cause proceedings.

20. Magallanes was served with the PC Report via certified mail on or about April 13, 2024. The information contained in the PC Report packet advised Magallanes that he had 21 days in which to request a probable cause conference, file a written response to the PC Report, or both. During the 21 days that followed service of the PC Report, Magallanes did not file a response to the PC Report or request a probable cause conference.

21. By means of an Ex Parte Request for a Finding of Probable Cause and an Order that an Accusation Be Prepared and Served ("Ex Parte Request"), dated May 8, 2024, the Enforcement Division submitted the matter to the Hearing Officer for a determination of probable cause.

22. On or about May 23, 2024, the Hearing Officer issued an order finding, based on the Ex Parte Request and the PC Report, that there was probable cause to believe Magallanes violated the Act and directed the Enforcement Division to issue an Accusation against Magallanes in accordance with the finding.

# **VIOLATIONS**

23. Magallanes committed 3 violations of the Act as follows:

# <u>Count 1</u>

# ACCUSATION FPPC Case No. 23/211

1	Failure to Timely File a 2020 Annual SEI		
2	24.	Complainant incorporates paragraphs 1-25 of this Accusation, as though completely set	
3	forth herein.		
4	25.	Magallanes, as a planning commissioner, had a duty under the Act to file a 2020 Annual	
5	SEI by the April 1, 2021.		
6	26.	Magallanes failed to timely file his 2020 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2021 due date.	
7	27.	By failing to file his 2020 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2021 deadline, Magallanes violated	
8	Government Code section 87203.		
9	<u>Count 2</u>		
10		Failure to Timely File a 2021 Annual SEI	
11	28.	Complainant incorporates paragraphs 1-25 of this Accusation, as though completely set	
12	forth herein.		
13	29.	Magallanes, as a planning commissioner, had a duty under the Act to file a 2021 Annual	
14	SEI by the April 1, 2021.		
15	30.	Magallanes failed to timely file his 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 due date.	
16	31.	By failing to file his 2021 Annual SEI by the April 1, 2022 deadline, Magallanes violated	
17	Government Code section 87203.		
18	<u>Count 3</u>		
19		Failure to Timely File a 2022 Annual SEI	
20	32.	Complainant incorporates paragraphs 1-25 of this Accusation, as though completely set	
21	forth herein.		
22	33.	Magallanes, as a planning commissioner, had a duty under the Act to file a 2022 Annual	
23	SEI by the April 3, 2023.		
24	34.	Magallanes failed to timely file his 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 due date.	
25	35.	By failing to file his 2022 Annual SEI by the April 3, 2023 deadline, Magallanes violated	
26	Government Code section 87203.		
27	//		
28	//		
		5	
	ACCUSATION FPPC Case No. 23/211		

1	MITIGATING OR EXCULPATORY FACTORS							
2	36. The Enforcement Division is not aware of mitigating or exculpatory factors.							
3	AGGRAVATING FACTORS AND OTHER RELEVANT MATERIALS							
4	37.	Magallanes has been a planning commissioner since 2020 and knew, or should have						
5	known, of his filing obligations under the Act. To date, Magallanes has not filed outstanding SEIs.							
6	PRAYER							
7	WHEREFORE, Complainant prays as follows:							
8	1. That the Fair Political Practices Commission hold a hearing pursuant to Section 83116 a							
9		Regulation 18361.5, and at such hearing find that Magallanes violated the Act as alleged						
10		herein;						
11	2.	That the Fair Political Practices Commission, pursuant to Section 83116, subdivision (c),						
12		order Magallanes to pay a monetary penalty of up to \$5,000 for the violation of the Political						
13		Reform Act alleged in Count 1;						
14	3.	That the Fair Political Practices Commission, pursuant to Section 83116, subdivision (c),						
15		order Magallanes to pay a monetary penalty of up to \$5,000 for the violation of the Political						
16		Reform Act alleged in Count 2;						
17	4.	That the Fair Political Practices Commission, pursuant to Section 83116, subdivision (c),						
18		order Magallanes to pay a monetary penalty of up to \$5,000 for the violation of the Political						
19		Reform Act alleged in Count 3;						
20	5.	That the Fair Political Practices Commission, pursuant to Regulation 18361.5, subdivision						
21		(e), consider the following factors in framing a proposed order following a finding of a						
22		violation pursuant to Section 83116: (1) The extent and gravity of the public harm caused						
23		by the specific violation; (2) The level of experience of the violator with the requirements						
24		of the Political Reform Act; (3) Penalties previously imposed by the Commission in						
25		comparable cases; (4) The presence or absence of any intention to conceal, deceive or						
26		mislead; (5) Whether the violation was deliberate, negligent or inadvertent; (6) Whether the						
27		violator demonstrated good faith by consulting the Commission staff or any other						
28		governmental agency in a manner not constituting complete defense under Government						
		6						

### ACCUSATION FPPC Case No. 23/211

Code Section 83114(b); (7) Whether the violation was isolated or part of a pattern and whether the violator has a prior record of violations of the Political Reform Act or similar laws; and (8) Whether the violator, upon learning of a reporting violation, voluntarily filed amendments to provide full disclosure. 6. That the Fair Political Practices Commission grant such other and further relief as it deems just and proper. ames M. Lindsay 7/19/24 Dated: James M. Lindsay, Chief of Enforcement Fair Political Practices Commission ACCUSATION FPPC Case No. 23/211

Attorney or Party without Attorney: Angela Brereton California Fair Political Commission 1102 Q St Ste 3000 Sacramento, CA 958116581 TELEPHONE No.: (916) 322-8185	FOR COURT USE ONLY			
Attorney for:		Ref No. or File No.: Case no. 2	3/211	-
Insert name of Court, and Judicial District and Branch Co Fair Political Practices Commission				
Plaintiff: In The Matter of: MIGUEL MA				
Defendant:				
PROOF OF SERVICE	HEARING DATE:	TIME:	DEPT.:	CASE NUMBER: 23/211

#### AT THE TIME OF SERVICE I WAS AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE AND NOT A PARTY TO THIS ACTION I SERVED COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

1. Statement to Respondent; 2. FPPC Case No. 23/211: Accusation; 3. Notice of Defense (Two Copies); 4. Packet of California Government Code Sections 11506 through 11508 5. Consent to Electronic Service Agreement.

PARTY SERVED: **Miguel Magallanes** 

1:22 PM

DATE & TIME OF DELIVERY: 7/24/2024

ADDRESS, CITY, AND STATE:

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: Age: 30s Weight: 190 Sex: Male Height: 5'9" Skin: Hispanic Marks:

Hair: Black

MANNER OF SERVICE:

Personal Service - By personally delivering copies.

Fee for Service: \$79.00 County: Ventura

Registration No.: 482 Amstar Express, Inc 509 Marin Street, # 237 Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 (888) 778-2711 Ref: Case no. 23/211

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the The State of California that the foregoing information contained in the return of service and statement of service fees is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on July 25, 2024.

Signature: \_

Alexander Guzman (Signature - Per CC §1633.7)

**PROOF OF SERVICE** 

## **CITY OF FILLMORE**

## PLANNING COMMISSION

# AGENDA



## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2024 6:30 PM

 **WELCOME TO THE CITY OF FILLMORE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING!** Your participation at this public meeting is valued and appreciated.

<u>Agenda/Packet:</u> The Agenda/Packet is available for review at Fillmore City Hall and online at www.fillmoreca.com Friday prior to the scheduled Wednesday. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Planning Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Planning Department during regular business hours and on the City's website subject to staff's ability post the documents before the meeting.

<u>Americans with Disabilities Act:</u> In compliance with the ADA, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting or other services in conjunction with this meeting, please contact the Planning Department at (805) 524-3701. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II)

<u>Audible Devices:</u> Please ensure all audible devices (pagers, telephones, etc.) are off or otherwise not audible when the Planning Commission is in session. Thank you.

<u>Consent Calendar</u>: Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine in nature, not discussed individually, and are normally approved by one motion. If a Councilmember or member of the public wishes to comment on a particular item, that item shall be removed for separate action.

<u>No New Business</u> will be considered by the Planning Commission **after 11:00 p.m.** unless a majority of the legislative body determines to continue.

Public Input: If you wish to address the Planning Commission regarding an item listed **on this agenda**, please complete and submit an Audience Participation Form to the City Clerk prior to consideration of that agenda item. Public Comments is the time for presentations/comments **not on this agenda** but within the subject-matter jurisdiction of the Planning Commission. Please complete and submit an Audience Participation Form to the City Clerk prior to the beginning of Public Comments. Pursuant to California Government Code/Brown Act, the Planning Commission ordinarily cannot take action on any item that is not listed on the agenda. As a result, matters identified during Public Comment will be referred to staff for follow-up or considered on a future agenda. In accordance with Resolution No. 09-3175, speakers are provided five (5) minutes for items listed on the agenda and no more than five (5) minutes to speak during Public Comments.

### CITY OF FILLMORE PLANNING COMMISSION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2024 6:30 PM COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL <u>AGENDA</u>

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3. ROLL CALL: CHAIR GARY CUSHING, VICE CHAIR JAYME LABER, AARON TODD, CAMERON CARRIZALES, MIGUEL MAGALLANES, COMMISSIONERS

### 4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

This is the opportunity for citizen presentations or comments not related to agenda items, but within the responsibility of the Fillmore Planning Commission. Each speaker is limited to 5 minutes.

### 5. CONSENT CALENDAR

5.A MINUTES OF THE JUNE 19, 2024 REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING PC MINUTES JUNE 19, 2024.PDF

### 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

6.A

CONSIDERATION OF A ONE-YEAR TIME EXTENSION FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 20-03 (INCLUDING DENSITY BONUS NO. 22-01, A LOT MERGER, AND LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT) AND A CEQA CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

- 1. ADOPT CEQA CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FOR TIME EXTENSION TO DP 20-3 AND DB 22-01; AND
- ADOPT PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION 24-1049 (ATTACHMENT 4), APPROVING A TIME EXTENSION TO DP NO. 20-03, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL (ATTACHMENT 3), WHICH EXTENDS DP 22-01 AND THE LOT MERGER AND LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT.

SR - RIVERVIEW GARDENS - TIME EXT PC 2024-8-21.PDF

ATT 1 RIVERVIEW LOCATION AND ZONING.PDF

ATT 2 RIVERVIEW GARDENS ARCHITECTURE.PDF

ATT 3 RIVERVIEW CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL - DP EXTENSION.PDF

ATT 4 RIVERVIEW PC RESO 1049 DP EXTENSION.PDF

7. BUSINESS ITEMS

### 8. **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS**

- 8.A PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
- 8.B PLANNING COMMISSION BRIEF REPORTS

### 9. ADJOURNMENT

9.A THE PLANNING COMMISSION ADJOURNS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 AT 6:30 PM IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 250 CENTRAL AVE, FILLMORE, CA 93015.

## RECEIVED

)

	FORM 700
ALIFURNIA	

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

### STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS

Date Inition Ning Desayad

BY: EH

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION	$(\alpha)$	C	OVER PAGE	BY: EH				
Please type or print in ink.		A PUB	LIC DOCUMENT					
NAME OF FILER (LAST)	(FIR	ST)		(MIDDLE)				
Magallanes	Mig		Ang					
1. Office, Agency, or Court				E S				
Agency Name (Do not use acronyms)				<u> </u>				
City of Fillmore				AUG				
Division, Board, Department, District, if ap	plicable		Your Position	20 000				
Planing Commission			Planing Commissioner	NEO				
► If filing for multiple positions, list below	or on an attachment.	(Do not us	e acronyms)	:01:13 1521 1101				
Agency:			_ Position:					
2. Jurisdiction of Office (Check at			<u></u>					
	least one box)							
State			Judge, Retired Judge, Pro Te (Statewide Jurisdiction)	em Judge, or Court Commissioner				
Multi-County								
-								
City of Fillmore			Other					
3. Type of Statement (Check at lea	st one box)							
Annual: The period covered is January	ary 1, 2019, through		Leaving Office: Date Left .	//				
December 31, 2019.			(Chec	k one circle.)				
-or- The period covered is December 31, 2019.		_, through	<ul> <li>The period covered is Jacobia</li> <li>leaving office.</li> </ul>	anuary 1, 2019, through the date of				
	05 . 12 . 2020	)						
X Assuming Office: Date assumed _			<ul> <li>The period covered is the date of leaving office</li> </ul>	/, through e.				
Candidate: Date of Election	and o	ffice sought	if different than Part 1:					
4. Schedule Summary (must co	mplete) ► Tota	l number	of pages including this cover	r page:1				
Schedules attached	•							
Schedule A-1 - Investments – sci	nedule attached	Г	<b>Schedule C -</b> Income, Loans, & Bus	siness Positions – schedule attached				
Schedule A-2 - Investments – sch			<b>Schedule D - I</b> ncome – Gifts – sche	edule attached				
Schedule B - Real Property – sch			Schedule E - Income - Gifts - Trav					
-or- IN None - No reportable inte	rests on any sched	lule						
5. Verification								
MAILING ADDRESS STREET (Business or Agency Address Recommended - Public	: Document)	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE				
250 Central Ave.	F	illmore	CA	93015				
DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER			EMAIL ADDRESS					
( 805 )415-0099			mmagallanes@fillmoreca.go	V				
I have used all reasonable diligence in pre herein and in any attached schedules is t	ny knowledge the information contained							
I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.								
Date Signed		ç	ignature	llas				
(month. day. year)	per statement with your filing official.)							



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

June 25, 2021 Miguel Magallanes 250 Central Ave Fillmore, CA 93015-1907

### Subject: Statement of Economic Interests - Notice of Non-Filing FIRST NON-FILER NOTIFICATION - 2020 Annual

Dear Miguel Magallanes:

According to our records, your Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700 as Planning Commissioner for City of Fillmore which was due on April 1, 2021, has not been received. Please file immediately. The deadline cannot be extended.

Government Code Section 91013 imposes a \$10.00 per day fine up to a maximum of \$100.00 for the late filing of a Statement of Economic Interests. However, if you file your statement within 30 days of the date of this email/letter and provide an explanation for the late filing, all or part of the fine can be waived. State law prohibits the waiving of any portion of a fine if the statement is not filed within 30 days of this email/letter.

You are eligible to use the new eDisclosure system (hyperlink below) to complete and submit your Form 700 electronically.

<u>Please view a short 'How -to' video :</u> <u>http://www.southtech-tutorials.com/eDisclosure/FilerDemo/tutorial.html</u> Then login to eDisclosure and file: eDisclosure System: https://form700.fppc.ca.gov/ Your Login ID:

### **Password:**

*Existing Filers (have previously logged into the system)* - If you have previously logged into the system, you have created your own password. If you have forgotten your password, please use the "Forgot Password" feature on the eDisclosure home page.

*New Filers (have never logged into the system)* - If you are a new filer, please refer to your "Conflict of Interest eFile Account Creation" email previously sent to you which included a temporary password. Once you log into the system, you will need to create a new password and answer a security question. If you have deleted the email, please contact your Filing Official listed below and ask them to reset your password which you will receive by email.

or

The FPPC Website Link for the Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700 and instructions is



1102 Q Street • Suite 3000 • Sacramento, CA 95811

http://www.fppc.ca.gov/. Please file your statement along with an explanation for the late filing to:

Fair Political Practices Commission 1102 Q Street Suite 3000 Sacramento, CA 95811

If you have any questions regarding this email, please contact me.

Sincerely, Sonia Rangel (916)323-6229 Form700@fppc.ca.gov



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

August 4, 2021 Miguel Magallanes City of Fillmore 250 Central Ave Fillmore, CA 93015-1907

### Subject: Statement of Economic Interests - Statement Not Filed Within 30 Days of First Notice SECOND NON-FILER NOTIFICATION - 2020 Annual

Dear Miguel Magallanes:

According to our records, on June 25, 2021, you were notified that we did not receive your Statement of Economic Interest, Form 700, as Planning Commissioner for City of Fillmore, which was due on April 1, 2021. We advised you to file your statement within 30 days. However, to date we have not received your statement.

Government Code Section 91013 provides that any person who files a statement after its deadline shall be liable in the amount of \$10.00 per day, up to a maximum of \$100.00. Furthermore, the Fair Political Practices Commission prohibits the waiving of any portion of the liability if the statement is not filed within 30 days after the Fair Political Practices Commission sends you specific written notice of the filing requirement.

Therefore, your Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700 must be completed and returned along with your check or money order payable to the State of California or to pay by credit card http://www.fppc.ca.gov/Form700/pay-late-fines.html. in the amount of \$100.00 made payable to the State of California. Your case number is MiguelMagallanes.

Forms and instructions are available online at http://www.fppc.ca.gov/.

Please send Form 700 and check/money order to: Fair Political Practices Commission 1102 Q Street, Suite 3000

Sacramento, CA 95811

If we have not heard from you within 30 days from the date of this letter, this matter will be referred to the appropriate enforcement authority. Please be advised that in addition to the late filing penalties by Section 91013, Government Code Section 83116 provides that a fine of up to \$5,000 per violation may be imposed. Payment of the late filing fine under Section 91013 does not preclude further enforcement action, including the imposition of the additional fine under Section 83116.

If you have any questions or need assistance regarding this letter, or obtaining appropriate forms, please contact Sonia Rangel at (916)323-6229.



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

June 30, 2022 Miguel Magallanes 250 Central Ave Fillmore, CA 93015-1907

### Subject: Statement of Economic Interests - Notice of Non-Filing FIRST NON-FILER NOTIFICATION - 2021 Annual

Dear Miguel Magallanes:

According to our records, your Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700 as Planning Commissioner for City of Fillmore which was due on **April 1, 2022**, has not been received. Please file immediately. The deadline cannot be extended.

Government Code Section 91013 imposes a \$10.00 per day fine up to a maximum of \$100.00 for the late filing of a Statement of Economic Interests. However, if you file your statement within 30 days of the date of this email/letter and provide an explanation for the late filing, all or part of the fine can be waived. State law prohibits the waiving of any portion of a fine if the statement is not filed within 30 days of this email/letter.

You are eligible to use the new eDisclosure system (hyperlink below) to complete and submit your Form 700 electronically.

<u>Please view a short 'How -to' video :</u> <u>http://www.southtech-tutorials.com/eDisclosure/FilerDemo/tutorial.html</u> Then login to eDisclosure and file: eDisclosure System: https://form700.fppc.ca.gov/ Your Login ID:

### **Password:**

*Existing Filers (have previously logged into the system)* - If you have previously logged into the system, you have created your own password. If you have forgotten your password, please use the "Forgot Password" feature on the eDisclosure home page.

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or

The FPPC Website Link for the Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700 and instructions is



1102 Q Street • Suite 3000 • Sacramento, CA 95811

http://www.fppc.ca.gov/. Please file your statement along with an explanation for the late filing to:

Fair Political Practices Commission 1102 Q Street Suite 3000 Sacramento, CA 95811

If you have any questions regarding this email, please contact me.

Sincerely, Sonia Rangel (916)323-6229 Form700@fppc.ca.gov



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

August 4, 2022 Miguel Magallanes City of Fillmore 250 Central Ave Fillmore, CA 93015-1907

### Subject: Statement of Economic Interests - Statement Not Filed Within 30 Days of First Notice SECOND NON-FILER NOTIFICATION - 2021 Annual

Dear Miguel Magallanes:

According to our records, on June 30, 2022, you were notified that we did not receive your Statement of Economic Interest, Form 700, as Planning Commissioner for City of Fillmore, which was due on **April 01, 2022**. We advised you to file your statement within 30 days. However, to date we have not received your statement.

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Forms and instructions are available online at http://www.fppc.ca.gov/.

Please send Form 700 and check/money order to: Fair Political Practices Commission 1102 Q Street, Suite 3000

Sacramento, CA 95811

If we have not heard from you within 30 days from the date of this letter, this matter will be referred to the appropriate enforcement authority. Please be advised that in addition to the late filing penalties by Section 91013, Government Code Section 83116 provides that a fine of up to \$5,000 per violation may be imposed. Payment of the late filing fine under Section 91013 does not preclude further enforcement action, including the imposition of the additional fine under Section 83116.

If you have any questions or need assistance regarding this letter, or obtaining appropriate forms, please contact Sonia Rangel at (916)323-6229.



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

September 23, 2024

Miguel Magallanes

### NOTICE OF DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

### Re: FPPC No. 23/00211 In the Matter of Miguel Magallanes

Dear Miguel Magallanes:

On July 24, 2024, you were personally served with an accusation in the above referenced matter. Pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, you were required to file a notice of defense within 15 days after service of the accusation to request an administrative hearing. You did not file a notice of defense. As a result, you have waived your right to an administrative hearing.<sup>1</sup>

The Fair Political Practices Commission (the "Commission") will proceed with a default, decision and order ("default") against you. The initial notice of this default will appear on the published agenda for the Commission's public meeting on October 17, 2024. This agenda will be public and you could be contacted by the media with questions. The Commission will be asked to adopt the default at the subsequent public meeting on November 21, 2024 and impose an administrative penalty of \$12,000 against you.

Following the issuance of the default, the Commission will obtain a judgment in superior court for the amount owed and then take action to collect the judgment. Please be advised that administrative penalties for violations of the Political Reform Act cannot be discharged in bankruptcy proceedings.

You may still resolve this matter informally by way of a stipulated settlement if an agreement can be reached prior to this matter appearing for consideration by the Commission. Please contact me at (279) 237-5974 or <a href="mailto:lcolumbel@fppc.ca.gov">lcolumbel@fppc.ca.gov</a> if you wish to enter into a settlement to resolve this matter in its entirety.

Sincerely,

Laura Columbel Commission Counsel Enforcement Division

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Government Code section 11505.



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

October 24, 2024

Miguel Magallanes

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

### Re: FPPC Case No. 23/00211; In the Matter of Miguel Magallanes

Dear Miguel Magallanes:

On July 24, 2024, you were personally served with an accusation in the above referenced matter. Pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, you were required to file a notice of defense within 15 days after service of the accusation to request an administrative hearing. You did not file a notice of defense. As a result, you have waived your right to an administrative hearing.<sup>1</sup>

The Fair Political Practices Commission (the "Commission") will proceed with a default, decision and order ("default") against you. The initial notice of this default appeared on the published agenda for the Commission's public meeting on October 17, 2024. The Commission will be asked to adopt the default at its public meeting scheduled for November 21, 2024 and impose an administrative penalty of \$12,000 against you. A copy of the default, decision, and order and accompanying exhibits the Commission will consider at its meeting on November 21, 2024 is enclosed with this letter.

You may, but you are not required to, provide a response brief, along with any supporting materials, <u>no later than five calendar days before the Commission hearing at which the default is scheduled to be heard.</u> Your response brief must be served on the Commission Assistant, at the above address.

Following the issuance of the default order and imposition of the administrative penalty, we will commence legal proceedings to collect this fine, which may include converting the Commission's order to a court judgment. Please be advised that administrative penalties for violations of the Political Reform Act cannot be discharged in bankruptcy proceedings.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Government Code Section 11505.

This letter is your last opportunity to resolve this matter informally by way of a stipulated settlement, before the default proceedings are commenced. If we do not reach a resolution, the enclosed documents will be placed on the Commission's agenda for the November 21, 2024 meeting. Please contact me at (279) 237-5974 or <a href="local\_lcolumbel@fppc.ca.gov">lcolumbel@fppc.ca.gov</a> if you wish to enter into a negotiated settlement.

Sincerely,

Laura Columbel Commission Counsel Enforcement Division

Enclosures: Default Decision and Order, Exhibit 1 and attachments