

EXECUTIVE STAFF REPORTS

July 21, 2022 Commission Hearing

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I. ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

STAFF: ANGELA BRERETON, CHIEF

A. Overview

During the period of May 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 the Enforcement Division received 236 complaints, opened 29 for investigation, and rejected 54. The Enforcement Division received 202 referrals during this time. The Enforcement Division closed a total of 150 cases including:

- 78 warning letters advertisement violations (7), behested payments (1), campaign violations (28), conflict of interest code violations (1), recordkeeping violation (1), and statement of economic interests violations (40);
- 32 no action closure letters alleging advertisement violation (3), campaign violations (9), conflict of interest violations (9), lobbying reporting violations (1), revolving door violations (1), and statement of economic interests violations (9);
- 24 approved stipulations from the March, April, and May Commission meetings.
- 3 approved defaults from the February Commission meeting;
- 12 committees were administratively terminated;
- And 1 case was used as a placeholder for system testing.

The Division had 1,477 cases in various stages of resolution at the time of the May Monthly Report and currently has approximately 1,475 cases in various stages of resolution, including the 28 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 2021, in which the Enforcement Division had a 16% increase in Streamline Penalties compared to 2020 after the Commission updated the Streamline Program regulations with the goal of making the Streamline Program more inclusive. 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.

	Ye	ear	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1	Complaints Received		564	1,352	744	1,390	606
2	Referrals Received		1,616	1,529	1,950	1,518	1,751
3	Total Complaint and Referrals Received		2,180	2,881	2,694	2,908	2,357
4	Cases opened		1,480	1,561	1,820	1,155	1,185
5	Cases closed ³		1,477	1,243	1,465	1,526	1,058
6	Са	ses with penalties ¹	340	235	343	278	269
	a	Streamline cases	262	173	263	194	234
	b	Mainline cases	66	56	73	77	32
	c	Default cases	12	6	7	7	3
7	Total fines imposed		\$1,126,933	\$499,606	\$797,384	\$1,940,107	\$472,248
8	Warning letters issued		505	554	584	777	475
9	Administrative terminations		297	177	104	62	59
10	Cases closed with violations found ²		1,142	966	1,031	1,117	803
1	Advisory letters issued		17	20	9	7	16
12	No action closure letters		318	252	423	402	237

 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.

C. Prior Year's Workload – 2022 Quarterly Summary

Jan-22	Apr-22

Year Opened	Existing Case Workload	Year Opened	Existing Case Workload	Difference in Case Workload
2015	1	2015	0	-1
2016	12	2016	10	-2
2017	28	2017	19	-9
2018	195	2018	174	-21
2019	287	2019	268	-19
2020	381	2020	361	-20
2021	561	2021	476	-85

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 the following streamline cases presented with this report: In the Matter of Lassen County Republican Central Committee, Christina Lee, and Patricia Ferne; FPPC No. 18/178 [The total penalty meets or exceeds the total amount raised or spent by the filer; 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.]; In the Matter of Committee to Oppose the Recall of Scott Peotter; FPPC No. 18/260 [The Chief of Enforcement may include or exclude any filer from receiving a Tier Two streamline penalty based upon mitigating or aggravating circumstances and the totality of the circumstances, including situations where an exclusion may apply.]; In the Matter of Friends for Bristol 2020 Snowline JUSD District 5; FPPC No. 21/856 [Lack of experience or knowledge of the Act's requirements caused multiple violations with minimal public harm that were corrected upon contact, and the Committee raised and spent less than \$10,000.]; In the Matter of Chris Norwood for School Board 2018, Chris Norwood, and Yazmeen Norwood; FPPC No. 18/924 [The committee raised and spent less than \$10,000.].

Recordkeeping

In the Matter of Lassen County Republican Central Committee, Christine Lee, and Patricia Ferne; FPPC No. 18/178. Staff: Theresa Gilbertson, Senior Commission Counsel and Kaitlin Osborn, Special Investigator. Lassen County Republican Central Committee is a state political party committee. Christine Lee served as the treasurer from June 15, 2015 through March 5, 2020 and Patricia Ferne served as the treasurer from March 5, 2020 through August 19, 2021. The Committee and Lee failed to timely file four semi-annual statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84200 (4 counts); a pre-election statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count); and failed to maintain adequate records to file campaign statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84104 (5 counts). The Committee and Ferne failed to timely file two semi-annual campaign statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84200 (2 counts). Total Penalty: \$2,459 (Tier One).

Advertisements

In the Matter of Voepel for Assembly 2022, and Randy Voepel; FPPC Case No. 22/400.

Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. The respondents are represented by Alex Tomescu of Wewer & Lacy, LLP. Randy Voepel was a successful candidate for the California State Assembly in the June 7, 2022 Primary Election. Voepel for Assembly 2022 is Voepel's candidate-controlled committee. The Committee failed to include the Committee's full name, street address, and "Paid for by" language on a mass mailing sent prior to the election, in violation of Government Code Section 84305 (1 count). **Total Penalty: \$593** (**Tier Two**).

Campaign Late Filer

In the Matter of Committee to Elect Gabriel Reyes - Mayor of Adelanto 2018, Gabriel Reyes, and Charity Reyes; FPPC No. 21/755. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. Gabriel Reyes was a successful candidate for Mayor of Adelanto in the November 6, 2018 General Election. Committee to Elect Gabriel Reyes - Mayor of Adelanto 2018 is Reyes' candidate-controlled committee. Charity Reyes is the committee's treasurer. The Committee, Reyes, and Reyes failed to timely file four semi-annual campaign statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84200 (four counts). Total Penalty: \$1,604 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Barry Chang for Santa Clara County Board of Education 2022, and Barry Chang; FPPC No. 21/1149. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Amber Rodriguez, Political Reform Consultant. Barry Chang is a candidate for the Santa Clara County Board of Education in the November 8, 2022 General Election. Barry Chang for Santa Clara County Board of Education 2022 is their candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Chang failed to timely file three semi-annual campaign statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84200 (3 counts). Total Penalty: \$1,200 (Tier Two).

In the Matter of Chris Norwood for School Board 2018, Chris Norwood, and Yazmeen Norwood; FPPC No. 18/924. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Shaina Elkin, Associate Governmental Program Analyst. Chris Norwood was a successful candidate for Milpitas Unified School District Board in the November 6, 2018 General Election. Chris Norwood for School Board 2018 is Norwood's candidate-controlled committee. Yazmeen Norwood is the Committee's treasurer. The Committee, Norwood, and Norwood failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count); failed to timely file a 24-Hour Report, in violation of Government Code Section 84203 (1 count); and failed to timely disclose contributions and expenditures on pre-election campaign statements, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (2 counts). Total Penalty: \$1,093 (Tier One & Two).

In the Matter of J.J. Jelincic for CalPERS-2017, JJ Jelincic for CalPERS-2019, J. J. Jelincic, and Christine Jelincic, FPPC Nos. 21/036 and 21/019. Staff: Theresa Gilbertson, Senior Commission Counsel. J.J. Jelincic for CalPERS-2017 and JJ Jelincic for CalPERS-2019 were committees controlled by J. J. Jelincic. Christine Jelincic was the treasurer for both committees. The 2017 Committee failed to timely file three 24-hour reports, in violation of Government Code Section 84203 (3 counts). The 2019 Committee failed to report the attribution of funds to contributors for a \$13,783 transfer of funds between controlled committees, in violation of Government Code Sections 84211 and 85306 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$1,077 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Friends of El Segundo Schools – Yes on Measure ES 2018, and Chris Powell; FPPC No. 18/997. Staff: Alex Rose, Commission Counsel. Friends of El Segundo Schools – Yes on Measure ES 2018 is a primarily formed ballot measure committee in support of Measure ES, a successful bond measure on the November 6, 2018 General Election. Chris Powell is the Committee's treasurer. The Committee and Powell failed to timely file two 24-hour contribution reports, in violation of Government Code Section 84203 (2 count). Total Penalty: \$980 (Tier Two).

In the Matter of Tom Huff for School Board 2020, and Tom Huff; FPPC No. 21/634. Staff: Marissa Nash, Commission Counsel. Tom Huff, candidate for Evergreen Elementary Board of Trustees failed to timely file three 24-hour contribution reports, in violation of Government Code Section 84203 (3 counts). Total Penalty: \$805 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Friends of John Bliss for Merced City Council 2018, Jasmine Posadas and John Bliss; FPPC No. 19/1648. Staff: Alex Rose, Commission Counsel. John Bliss was an unsuccessful candidate for the Merced City Council in the November 6, 2018 General Election. Friends of John Bliss for Merced City Council 2018 was Bliss's candidate-controlled committee and Jasmine Posadas was the committee treasurer. The Committee, Bliss, and Posadas failed to timely file a qualifying statement of organization, one pre-election campaign statement, and one semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Sections 84103, 84200, and 84200.5 (3 counts). Total Penalty: \$678 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Committee to Oppose Measure E, and James R. Nyman; FPPC No. 18/206. Staff: Christopher B. Burton, Assistant Chief of Enforcement and Lance Hachigian, Special Investigator. Committee to Oppose Measure E was a committee primarily formed to oppose Palos Verdes Estates Measure E for the April 10, 2018 Special Municipal Election. James R. Nyman served as the principal officer and treasurer of the Committee. The Committee and Nyman failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count); failed to timely report contributions and expenditures on a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (1 count); and failed to timely file an amendment to the Committee's Statement of Organization after the Committee qualified, in violation of Government Code Section 84103 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$598 (Tier One).

In the Matter of James Wright, Janice Wright, and James R. Wright for Trustee South Orange County Community College District 2020; FPPC No. 20/1139. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. James Wright was a successful candidate for the South Orange County Community College District Board in the November 3, 2020 General Election. James R. Wright for Trustee South Orange County Community College District 2020 is Wright's candidate-controlled committee. Janice Wright is the committee's treasurer. The Committee, Wright, and Wright failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$474 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Silicon Valley Latino Democratic Forum, and Lee Ross Gomez, Jr.; FPPC No. 21/094. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. Silicon Valley Latino Democratic Forum is a local general purpose committee. Lee Ross Gomez, Jr. is the committee's Treasurer. The Committee and Gomez failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$400 (Tier Two).

In the Matter of Richard Fuentes and Richard Fuentes for CalPERS Board 2022; FPPC No. 22/335. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Ginny Lambing, Political Reform Consultant. Richard Fuentes was an unsuccessful candidate for CalPERS Board in the May 16, 2022 Special Election, and Richard Fuentes for CalPERS Board 2022 was Fuentes' candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Fuentes failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$371 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Josie Calderon-Scott for Water Board 2020, Josie Calderon-Scott, and Richard Scott; FPPC No. 20/1053. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Amber Rodriguez, Political Reform Consultant. Josie Calderon-Scott was a successful candidate for the South Bay Irrigation District Board of Directors in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Josie Calderon-Scott for Water Board 2020 was their candidate-controlled committee. Richard Scott was the Committee's treasurer. The Committee, Calderon-Scott, and Scott failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$251 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Friends for Bristol 2020 Snowline JUSD, District 5, and Nathan Bristol; FPPC No. 21/856. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. Nathan Bristol was a successful candidate for the Snowline Joint Unified School District Board in the November 3, 2020 General Election. Friends for Bristol 2020 Snowline JUSD was Bristol's candidate-controlled committee. The Committee and Bristol failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$220 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Committee to Elect Nancy Bumstead 2018, Nancy Bumstead, and Deborah Raymond; FPPC No. 18/996. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. Nancy Bumstead was an unsuccessful candidate for the Ontario-Montclair School District Board in the November 6, 2018 General Election. Committee to Elect Nancy Bumstead 2018 was their candidate-controlled committee. Deborah Raymond was the committee's treasurer. The Committee, Bumstead, and Raymond failed to timely file a preelection campaign statement, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.5 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$220.

Campaign Late Reporter

In the Matter of Scott Peotter, Committee to Oppose the Recall of Scott Peotter, and Lysa Ray; FPPC Case No. 18/260. Staff: Jenna C. Rinehart, Commission Counsel, and Lance Hachigian, Special Investigator. The respondents were represented by Chad Morgan of Law Offices of Chad Morgan, APC. The Committee failed to timely disclose certain non-monetary contributions received, in violation of Government Code Section 84211 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$629 (Tier Two).

Statement of Economic Interests Late Filer

In the Matter of Douglas Eaton; FPPC No. 19/1594. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Amber Rodriguez, Political Reform Consultant. Douglas Eaton, a Physician and Surgeon for California Correctional Health Care Services, failed to timely file a 2018 Annual, 2019 Annual, and 2020 Annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87300 (3 counts). Total Penalty: \$600 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Dexter Jackson; FPPC No. 19/1226. Staff: David E. Castro, Commission Counsel. Dexter Jackson, Senior Plumbing Building Inspector for the City of Los Angeles Department of Building & Safety, failed to timely file a 2018 Annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87300 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$400 (Tier One).

In the Matter of Moorea Hoffman; FPPC No. 19/1586. Staff: David E. Castro, Commission Counsel. Moorea Hoffman, Planning Commissioner for the City of Plumas, failed to timely file an Assuming Office Statement of Economic Interests and a 2019 Annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87300 (2 counts). Total Penalty: \$400 (Tier One).

Statement of Economic Interests Late Reporter

In the Matter of Laura Hernandez; FPPC Case No. 22/395. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Tara Stock, Intake Manager. Laura Hernandez is a City Council Member for the City of Port Hueneme, a Regional Council Member for the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and an Alternate Member for the Channel Islands Site Authority. Hernandez failed to timely disclose one source of income on the 2021 Annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87207 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$100.

In the Matter of Richard Kuhns; FPPC No. 22/247. Staff: Angela Brereton, Chief of Enforcement and Ginny Lambing, Political Reform Consultant. Richard Kuhns, Chief Administrative Officer of Trinity County, failed to timely report one source of income on their 2020 Annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87207 (1 count). Total Penalty: \$100 (Tier One).

II. AUDITS AND ASSISTANCE DIVISION

STAFF: SHRDHA SHAH, CHIEF

A. Overview

The audit reports prepared by the FPPC summarize findings with respect to the filer's conformity with the disclosure and recordkeeping requirements of the Political Reform Act. Copies of audit reports are always sent to the auditees and those included in the audit report (such as the prior treasurer, current treasurer and/or their representatives). These reports are public documents.

B. Current Period Updates

During the period of May 1, 2022, through June 30, 2022, the Audits and Assistance Division adopted 4 audit reports. Currently the team has 30 audits in progress at various stages, including fieldwork, post-fieldwork, and quality review.

C. Personnel Update

During the month of June, the Division accepted the resignation of one audit staff member, resulting in transfer of workload to the current team members. The Division is currently in the process of recruiting a new Staff Services Management Auditor to fill the vacancy.

III. LEGAL DIVISION

STAFF: DAVE BAINBRIDGE, GENERAL COUNSEL

A. Pending Litigation

Mat Wahlstrom v. FPPC, Steven J. Kaufman and Kaufman Legal Group, APC San Diego County Superior Court, Central Division
Case No. 37-2020-00030654-CU-WMCTL

Petitioner filed a petition for writ of mandate on August 31, 2020. The petition sought to set aside a streamline stipulation, decision and order against Todd Gloria adopted by the Commission in November 2019. The Attorney General represented the Commission. The Commission timely filed an answer to the complaint. Petitioner filed an amended petition on May 12, 2021. The Commission filed a demurrer to the amended petition, the parties submitted briefs and at a hearing on December 13, 2021.

On March 17, 2022, the court issued a tentative ruling sustaining the Commission's demurrer without leave to amend the petition. Petitioner did not request a hearing to contest the tentative ruling, thus the tentative will become the court's final ruling. On April 4, 2022, the court entered a judgment. On June 27, 2022, the parties tentatively agreed that petitioner will forgo appeal of the trial court's ruling in exchange for the Commission not seeking recovery of costs. When this agreement is finalized this case will be closed.

B. Outreach and Training

Webinars

- May 12, the FPPC hosted a local contribution limits webinar. Education and External Affairs Manager, Chloe Hackert, presented. 4 people attended.
- May 17, the FPPC presented a Statement of Economic Interests Filers workshop requested by the California Sheriffs' Association. Political Reform Consultant, Katie Trumbly, presented. 20 people attended.
- May 19, the FPPC hosted a Candidate/Treasurer webinar. Political Reform Consultants, Adam Ramirez and Alex Castillo, presented. 9 people attended.
- May 24, the FPPC hosted a Campaign Filing Officer webinar. Political Reform Consultants, Stephen Hernandez and Katie Trumbly, presented. 11 people attended.
- May 24, Chair Richard Miadich and General Counsel Dave Bainbridge participated in a
 presentation hosted by the Institute for Local Government about ballot measure
 campaigns by local agencies.
- June 3, the FPPC presented a Campaign Filing Officer webinar requested by the City of El Cerrito. Education and External Affairs Manager, Chloe Hackert, and Political Reform Consultant, Adam Ramirez, presented. 50 people attended.

- June 15, the FPPC hosted a Candidate/Treasurer webinar. Political Reform Consultants, Stephen Hernandez and Adam Ramirez, presented. 13 people attended.
- June 21, the FPPC hosted a Campaign Filing Officer webinar. Education and External Affairs Manager, Chloe Hackert, and Political Reform Consultant, Alex Castillo, presented. 13 people attended.
- June 22, the FPPC presented a Statement of Economic Interests Filing Officers webinar requested by the County of San Diego. Education and External Affairs Manager, Chloe Hackert, presented. 5 people attended.
- June 22, the FPPC presented a Candidate/Treasurer webinar requested by the City of Beaumont. Political Reform Consultants, Stephen Hernandez and Adam Ramirez, presented. 1 person attended.
- June 30, the FPPC hosted a Statement of Economic Interests Filers webinar. Political Reform Consultants, Katie Trumbly and Alex Castillo, presented. 1 person attended.

Scheduled Webinars

- July 12, the FPPC is hosting a Candidate/Treasurer webinar.
- July 13, the FPPC is hosting a Campaign Filing Officer webinar.

Video Tutorials

Commission video tutorials were accessed a total of 399 times in May and 552 times in June. Form 700 videos were accessed 158 times in May and 218 times in June. The Candidate/Treasurer video was accessed 176 times in May and 265 in June. The filing officer videos were accessed 65 times in May and 69 times in June.

C. New and Updated Educational Resources

- Updated and expanded the Campaign Advertisements by Government Agencies page: https://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn/campaign-rules/campaign-related-communications-at-public-expense.html.
- Comprehensive Form 800 Series Search Page on the Transparency Portal: https://fppc.ca.gov/transparency/800-series-forms-search.html
- Form 807 Search Page on Transparency Portal: https://fppc.ca.gov/transparency/800-series-forms-search/form-807.html
- Political Reform Education Program (PREP) Page: https://fppc.ca.gov/learn/PREP.html

D. Advice

The May and June Advice Letter Reports are available on the FPPC website at https://www.fppc.ca.gov/advice/advice-opinion-search/advice-letter-reports/2022-advice-letter-reports.html.

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

- *Education*: The Education unit responded to 475 requests for technical assistance via telephone.
- *Requests for Advice:* Political Reform Consultants and Legal Division attorneys collectively responded to 604 email requests for advice, 113 of which were not responded to within 24 hours.
- *Advice Letters:* The Legal Division received 10 advice letter requests under the Political Reform Act and completed 15.
- **Section 1090 Letters:** The Legal Division received 6 advice letter request concerning Section 1090 and completed 2. This year to date, we have received 16 advice requests regarding Section 1090.

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

- *Education*: The Education unit responded to 414 requests for technical assistance via telephone.
- *Requests for Advice:* Political Reform Consultants and Legal Division attorneys collectively responded to 512 email requests for advice, 58 of which were not responded to within 24 hours.
- *Advice Letters:* The Legal Division received 2 advice letter requests under the Political Reform Act and completed 11.
- **Section 1090 Letters:** The Legal Division received 5 advice letter request concerning Section 1090 and completed 3. This year to date, we have received 21 advice requests regarding Section 1090.

E. Miscellaneous Decisions

SEI Exemption Request

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 exemptions were approved in May and June:

- Sheela Stark, Candidate for State Assembly, District 50. Certain clients of her law firm were exempt from disclosure as sources of income on her Form 700.
- Daniela Reali-Ferrari, Judge, San Diego County Superior Court. Certain clients of her spouse's law practice were exempt from disclosure as sources of income on her Form 700.

F. Potential Upcoming Regulation Projects

August

- Recall Election Various new regulations to address ambiguities and gaps in the application of the Act's disclosure provisions in recall elections (pre-notice).
- Bank account signor disclosure Require disclosure of authorized signors for campaign bank accounts on a statement of organization (pre-notice).

September

- Prohibited lobbyist activities New provisions to interpret and make specific prohibitions on lobbyists and lobbying firms contained in 86205 (pre-notice).
- Direct Personal Benefit definition Update the regulatory definition of "direct personal benefit" to reflect amendments made to Section 89521 by AB 1367, as well as other minor clean-up of existing regulations (adoption).

For more information on these and other regulation projects planned for 2022, go to https://www.fppc.ca.gov/the-law/fppc-regulations.html.

G. Conflict of Interest Codes

Adoptions and Amendments

Multi-County:

- Statewide Association of Community Colleges JPA
- Western Educational Corp.
- Municipal Insurance Cooperative
- Southern CA Regional Liability Excess Fund JPA
- Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

State:

- Housing & Community Development Department
- California Horse Racing Board
- Franchise Tax Board
- Health and Human Services Agency
- Prison Industry Authority
- State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Exemptions

None

Extensions

• Independent Peer Review Group

H. Probable Cause Hearings

Probable cause proceedings are conducted per Government Code section 83115.5. A finding of probable cause does not constitute a finding a violation occurred. Respondents are presumed innocent of any violation of the Act unless a violation is proven in a subsequent proceeding.

- 1. In the Matter of Siskiyou Alternative Medicine Opposing Measures T & U, Anne Walent, and Wayne Walent, Case No. 16/440. After a probable cause conference on May 17, 2022, probable cause was found to believe that Respondents committed the following violations of the Act:
- Count 1: On or about April 4, 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to timely file a statement of organization, in violation of Government Code Section 84101.
- Count 2: On or about April 4, 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to timely disclose, on its late-filed statement of organization, the date the Committee qualified as a committee, in violation of Government Code Section 84101, subdivision (a), and Regulation 18410, subdivision (a)(1).
- Count 3: The Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to timely file the first pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2016 to April 23, 2016, by the April 28, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5, subdivision (a), and 84200.8.
- Count 4: The Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to timely file the second pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period of April 24, 2016 to May 21, 2016, by the May 26, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5, subdivision (a), and 84200.8.
- Count 5: The Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to timely file a 24-hour contribution report for a \$2,000 contribution received on or about April 18, 2016, by the April 19, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84203, subdivision (b).
- Count 6: During or about reporting periods occurring between January 1, 2016 and June 30, 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to report contributions received totaling at least \$1,350.43 and expenditures totaling at least \$4,330.50, in violation of Government Code Section 84211, subdivisions (a) and (b).
- <u>Count 7:</u> Dismissed by complainant.
- Count 8: During or about reporting periods occurring between January 1, 2016, and June 30, 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to maintain detailed campaign records for contributions received totaling at least \$7,456.68, and for expenditures totaling at least \$2,067.50, in violation of Government Code Section 84104 and Regulation 18401, subdivision (a).

- Count 9: During or about reporting periods occurring between January 1, 2016 and June 30, 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne paid for at least ten expenditures in cash of \$100 or more totaling \$7,956.68, in violation of Government Code Section 84300, subdivision (b).
- Count 10: In or about March to June 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to include the required disclosure statement on campaign flyer advertisements, in violation of Government Code Section 84504, subdivision (c), and Regulation 18450.4, subdivision (b).
- Count 11: In or about March to May 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to include the required disclosure statement on campaign yard sign advertisements, in violation of Government Code Section 84504, subdivision (c), and Regulation 18450.4, subdivision (b).
- Count 12: In or about March to May 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to include the required disclosure statement on campaign newspaper advertisements, in violation of Government Code Section 84504, subdivision (c), and Regulation 18450.4, subdivision (b).
- Count 13: In or about March to June 2016, the Committee, Anne, and Wayne failed to include the required disclosure statement on campaign television advertisements, in violation of Government Code Section 84504, subdivision (c), and Regulation 18450.4, subdivision (b).
 - 2. In the Matter of Healthcare Conglomerate Associates, LLC and Yorai "Benny" Benzeevi, Case No. 19/333. After a probable cause conference on June 21, 2022, probable cause was found to believe that Respondents committed the following violations of the Act:
- <u>Count 1</u>: The Committee and Benzeevi failed to timely file a 24-hour independent expenditure report for a late independent expenditure in the amount of \$90,000 made on May 8, 2017, in violation of Section 84204.
- <u>Count 2</u>: The Committee and Benzeevi failed to timely file a 24-hour independent expenditure report for a late independent expenditure in the amount of \$90,000 made on June 6, 2017, in violation of Section 84204.
- Count 3: The Committee and Benzeevi failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017, in violation of Section 84200, subdivision (b).

- Count 4: The Committee and Benzeevi failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement for the reporting period of July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017, in violation of Section 84200, subdivision (b).
- Count 5: The Committee and Benzeevi failed to print the language "Paid for by," disclose the name of the Committee, and include the required "not authorized" disclaimer on a print advertisement disseminated on or around June 15, 2017, in violation of Sections 84506, subdivision (a), and 84506.5, and Regulation 18450.4, subd. (b)(1).
- Count 6: The Committee and Benzeevi failed to print the language "Paid for by," disclose the name of the Committee, and include the required "not authorized" disclaimer on a print advertisement disseminated on or around July 6, 2017, in violation of Sections 84506, subdivision (a), and 84506.5, and Regulation 18450.4, subd. (b)(1).

The following matters were decided based solely on the papers. The respondents did not request or failed to appear at a probable cause hearing.

- 3. In the Matter of Anna Song and Friends of Anna Song for County Board Of Education for 2020, Case No. 20/950. On May 10, 2022, probable cause was found to believe Respondents committed the following violations of the Act:
- Count 1: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017, by the January 31, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 2: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018, by the July 31, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 3: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018, by the January 31, 2019 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 4: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019, by the July 31, 2019 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 5: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, by the January 31, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 6: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2020 to January 18, 2020, by the January 23, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8 and Regulation 18405.
- Count 7: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period of January 19, 2020 to February 15, 2020, by the February

- 20, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8 and Regulation 18405.
- Count 8: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of February 16, 2020 to June 30, 2020, by the July 31, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 9: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period of July 1, 2020 to September 19, 2020, by the September 24, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 10: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period of September 20, 2020 to October 17, 2020, by the October 22, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 11: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021, by the August 2, 2021 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 12: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period of July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, by the January 31, 2022 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 13: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late monetary contribution, totaling \$4,410, received on August 6, 2020, by the August 7, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84203.
- Count 14: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late monetary contribution, totaling \$6,000, received on August 7, 2020, by the August 10, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84203.
- Count 15: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late monetary contribution, totaling \$10,000, received on September 25, 2020, by the September 28, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84203.
- Count 16: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose two late monetary contributions, totaling \$2,000, received on October 3, 2020, by the October 5, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84203.
- Count 17: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late non-monetary contribution, totaling \$22,440, received on October 5, 2020, by the October 7, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84203 and 84203.3.
- Count 18: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late non-monetary contribution, totaling \$40,000, received on October 8, 2020, by the October 12, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84203 and 84203.3.
- Count 19: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late non-monetary contribution, totaling \$4,000, received on October 11,

- 2020, by the October 13, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84203 and 84203.3.
- Count 20: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late non-monetary contribution, totaling \$22,440, received on October 13, 2020, by the October 15, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84203 and 84203.3.
- Count 21: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late non-monetary contribution, totaling \$15,088, received on October 15, 2020, by the October 19, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84203 and 84203.3.
- Count 22: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late non-monetary contribution, totaling \$21,944, received on October 21, 2020, by the October 23, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84203 and 84203.3.
- Count 23: The Committee and Song failed to timely file a 24-Hour Contribution Report to disclose a late non-monetary contribution, totaling \$21,937, received on October 26, 2020, by the October 28, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84203 and 84203.3.
 - 4. In the Matter of Armando Jaramillo, Case No. 19/419. On June 17, 2022, probable cause was found to believe Respondent committed the following violations of the Act:
- Count 1: Jaramillo participated in the planning, discussions, reasoning, preparation of and specifications of a contract with ICOE for \$7,287.23 in which he had a financial interest, in violation of Government Code Section 1090.
- Count 2: Jaramillo participated in the planning, discussions, reasoning, preparation of and specifications of a contract with ICOE for \$7,036.39 in which he had a financial interest, in violation of Government Code Section 1090.
- Count 3: Jaramillo participated in the planning, discussions, reasoning, preparation of and specifications of a contract with ICOE for \$7,263.42 in which he had a financial interest, in violation of Government Code Section 1090.
- Count 4: Jaramillo participated in the planning, discussions, reasoning, preparation of and specifications of a contract with ICOE for \$5,499.34 in which he had a financial interest, in violation of Government Code Section 1090.
- Count 5: Jaramillo participated in the planning, discussions, reasoning, preparation of and specifications of a contract with ICOE for \$7,267.23 in which he had a financial interest, in violation of Government Code Section 1090.
- Count 6: Jaramillo participated in the planning, discussions, reasoning, preparation of and specifications of a contract with ICOE for \$5,499.34 in which he had a financial interest, in violation of Government Code Section 1090.

5. In the Matter of Brigitte Davila, Brigitte Davila for City College Board 2014, Davila for San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee 2016, and Nadia Conrad, Case Nos. 18/1119 and 19/997. On June 17, 2022, probable cause was found to believe that Respondents committed the following violations of the Act:

2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad Violations

- Count 1: The 2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending April 23, 2016, by the April 29, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 2: The 2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending May 21, 2016, by the May 26, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 3: The 2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending June 30, 2017, by the July 31, 2017 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 4: The 2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending December 31, 2017, by the January 31, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 5: The 2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending June 30, 2018, by the July 31, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 6: The 2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending September 22, 2018, by the September 27, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 7: The 2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely pay the 2017 annual fee by the January 15, 2017 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84101.5.
- Count 8: The 2014 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely pay the 2018 annual fee by the January 15, 2018 due date, and failed to pay the resulting \$150 late penalty, in violation of Government Code Section 84101.5.

2014 Committee and Davila Violations

- Count 9: The 2014 Committee and Davila failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending October 20, 2018, by the October 25, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 10: The 2014 Committee and Davila failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending December 31, 2018, by the January 31, 2019 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.

- Count 11: The 2014 Committee and Davila failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending December 31, 2019, by the January 31, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 12: The 2014 Committee and Davila failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending June 30, 2020, by the July 31, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 13: The 2014 Committee and Davila failed to timely pay the 2019 annual fee by the January 15, 2019 due date, and failed to pay the resulting \$150 late penalty, in violation of Government Code Section 84101.5.
- Count 14: The 2014 Committee and Davila failed to timely pay the 2020 annual fee by the January 15, 2020 due date, and failed to pay the resulting \$150 late penalty, in violation of Government Code Section 84101.5.

2016 Committee, Davila, and Conrad Violations

- Count 15: The 2016 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file an amendment to the 2016 Committee's statement of organization to disclose the 2016 Committee's date of qualification, by the May 16, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84103.
- Count 16: The 2016 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending April 23, 2016, by the April 28, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 17: The 2016 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending May 21, 2016, by the May 26, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 18: The 2016 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending June 30, 2017, by the July 31, 2017 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 19: The 2016 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending December 31, 2017, by the January 31, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 20: The 2016 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending June 30, 2018, by the July 31, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 21: The 2016 Committee, Davila, and Conrad failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending September 22, 2018, by the September 27, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.

2016 Committee and Davila Violations

- Count 22: The 2016 Committee and Davila failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending October 20, 2018, by the October 25, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Sections 84200.5 and 84200.8.
- Count 23: The 2016 Committee and Davila failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending December 31, 2018, by the January 31, 2019 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 24: The 2016 Committee and Davila failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending December 31, 2019, by the January 31, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.
- Count 25: The 2016 Committee and Davila failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period ending June 30, 2020, by the July 31, 2020 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 84200.

Davila Violations

- Count 26: Davila failed to timely file a 2015 Annual SEI, by the April 1, 2016 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.
- Count 27: Davila failed to timely file a 2016 Annual SEI, by the April 3, 2017 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.
- Count 28: Davila failed to timely file a 2017 Annual SEI, by the April 2, 2018 due date, in violation of Government Code Section 87300.

IV. ADMINISTRATION & TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

STAFF: LORESSA HON, CHIEF

A. New Employee Report

Enforcement Division

Stacey Anderson-Wise, Management Services Technician

Legal Division

Edgar Ramirez, Staff Services Analyst

B. Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700)

As of July 1, 2022, 557 persons who were required under their state or local agency conflict of interest code to file a 2021/2022 Annual Form 700 had not timely done so. The Statement of Economic Interest Unit has made 104 non-filer referrals to the Enforcement Division.