



(Approved October XX, 2025)
CALIFORNIA FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF HEARING, Public Session
Thursday, September 18, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Present: Chair Adam E. Silver, Commissioner Alf W. Brandt, Commissioner Elsa Ortiz, Commissioner E. Dotson Wilson, Commissioner Charlene Zettel

Executive Staff Present:

Galena West, Executive Director
Dave Bainbridge, General Counsel
Kendall L.D. Bonebrake, Chief of Enforcement
Shrdha Shah, Chief of Audits and Assistance
Jue Wang, PhD, Chief of Administration
Lindsey Nakano, Senior FPPC Legislative Counsel
Shery Yang, Communications Director

Call to Order.

Chair Silver called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

1. Public Comments for items not on the agenda.

No public comments.

2. Approval of August 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: To approve the August 2025 Meeting Minutes. Moved by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Ortiz. The motion passed 5-0.

3-6. Consent Calendar

3. In the Matter of Douglas Treisman and Treisman for Judge 2020; FPPC No. 22/714.

4. In the Matter of City of Hanford; FPPC No. 22/564.

Chief of Enforcement Kendall L.D. Bonebrake flagged a typographical error in the stipulation on page 13 regarding a comparable case “In the Matter of City of Garden Grove and Scott Stiles” noting a cost of \$11,526. The correct cost is \$1,526. Commissioner Brandt stated he is focused on the facts and the style, timing, and tenor when it comes to these types of cases. Commissioner Wilson stated it would be a different case if there was a balanced analysis of facts on both sides as opposed to it being one-sided advocating yes or no. Chair Silver stated there are clear regulations to consider, but it is a difficult and complex analysis. To assist in conducting this analysis, the FPPC now posts copies of the government communications at issue in advice letters and enforcement matters. Chair Silver recommended for any public attorneys advising on this topic to reach out to the FPPC for advice on what is permissible under the law.

5. In the Matter of California Voter Project; FPPC No. 19/1386.

6. In the Matter of Michael Minnix and Committee to Re-Elect Michael Minnix; FPPC Nos. 20/817 & 20/998.

This default item was pulled from the Consent Calendar. The Respondent has reached out in an attempt to settle.

MOTION: To approve the Consent Calendar items 3-5. Moved by Chair Silver, seconded by Commissioner Ortiz. The motion passed 5-0.

7-13. General Items

7. Pre-Notice Discussion of Proposed Amendments to Regulation 18536, Transfer and Attribution of Contributions.

Item was pulled.

8. Adoption of Amendments to Regulation 18351, FPPC Conflict of Interest Code.

Manager of Email Advice and Conflict of Interest Code Lindsay Rice presented the item.

MOTION: To adopt the amendments to Regulation 18351. Moved by Chair Silver, seconded by Commissioner Ortiz. The motion passed 5-0.

9. The FPPC Streamline Program: How It Works (Part 1).

Senior Commission Counsel Theresa Gilbertson and Commission Counsel Jonathan Rivera presented the item. Ms. Gilbertson clarified for Commissioner Ortiz that the FPPC has individuals submit complaints through the complaint portal on the FPPC website in writing. Chair Silver stated the public can view statistics on complaints and referrals in the monthly Enforcement Division's Executive Staff Report.

10. Legislative Update.

Senior FPPC Legislative Counsel Lindsey Nakano presented the item. Ms. Nakano confirmed for Commissioner Zettel that AB 953 excludes DACA recipients from the prohibition and they would be allowed to make contributions related to ballot measures, but not be able to vote. In regards to SB 45, Commissioner Zettel stated her concern with public financing with California already being billions of dollars in debt. She stated that it will ultimately take volunteers to get the vote out and just some money to print campaign mailers.

11. Appointment of Vice Chair.

MOTION: To appoint Commissioner Zettel as Vice Chair. Moved by Chair Silver, seconded by Commissioner Brandt. The motion passed 5-0.

12. Appointment of Law and Policy Committee Member.

MOTION: To appoint Commissioner Brandt as Law and Policy Committee Member. Moved by Chair Silver, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion passed 5-0.

13. Executive Staff Reports.

Chief Bonebrake presented the Enforcement Division Staff Report as submitted.

Chief of Audits and Assistance Shrdha Shah presented the Audits and Assistance Division Staff Report as submitted.

General Counsel Dave Bainbridge presented the Legal Division Staff Report as submitted.

Dr. Wang presented the Administration and Technology Division Staff Report as submitted.

14. Closed Session. Administrative Adjudication (Gov. Code §§ 11126(c)(3), 11517(c)(2).)

Closed session.

15. Commissioner Comments and Proposed Future Agenda Items.

Commissioner Ortiz proposed for an FPPC educational program to be created for General Counsels in public agencies. Commissioner Wilson added that that FPPC has been an advocate in providing educational programs and materials so Commissioner Ortiz's proposal is consistent with the FPPC mission.

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Davina Vo
Commission Assistant
Approved October XX, 2025

Adam E. Silver, Chair
Fair Political Practices Commission