

July 11, 2025, Enforcement Update: San Francisco Ethics Commission Issues Default Order Imposing Penalties for Campaign Finance Violations.

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At its regularly scheduled meeting held on Friday, July 11, 2025, the San Francisco Ethics Commission unanimously approved a Default Order imposing a total of \$3,000 in penalties against Respondent, William Walker, for multiple violations of State and local campaign finance laws. Despite receiving proper notice, Respondent failed to appear before the Commission at the hearing.

The <u>Default Order</u>, approved by all three Commissioners present, found Respondent in violation of the law on six separate counts:

- Count 1: Failing to file a Statement of Organization to establish a political committee.
- Count 2: Failing to file required semi-annual and pre-election campaign statements.
- **Count 3**: Failing to complete the mandatory ethics training required of candidates for public office in San Francisco.
- Count 4: Failing to collect required contributor information for donations of \$100 or more.
- **Count 5**: Failing to establish a campaign bank account as required by law.
- Count 6: Failing to furnish documents and information requested by the Ethics Commission.

The Commission found that the violations were substantiated by uncontested evidence in the administrative record and warranted the imposition of penalties. The Commission voted 3-0 to adopt the Default Order and impose a total of \$3,000 in penalties for all six counts.

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The San Francisco Ethics Commission was created directly by the City's voters with the passage of Proposition K in November 1993 and is responsible for the independent and impartial administration and enforcement of laws related to campaign finance, public financing of candidates, governmental ethics, conflicts of interests, and registration and reporting by lobbyists, campaign consultants, permit consultants, and major developers.

Our mission is to practice and promote the highest standards of integrity in government. We achieve that by delivering impactful programs that promote fair, transparent, and accountable governmental decision making for the benefit of all San Franciscans. Public service is a public trust, and our aim is to ensure that San Franciscans can have confidence that the operations of the City and County and the decisions made by its officials and employees are fair, just, and made without any regard to private or personal gain.