

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The statutes alleged to have been violated are designed to ensure compliance with the Political Reform Act of 1974. It is the mission of the Fair Political Practices Commission to enforce its provisions.

A purpose of the Political Reform Act and specifically *Government Code* sections 87100 is to prevent a government official from participating in decisions where it appears the official may not be totally objective because the outcome is reasonably foreseeable to have a material financial effect on the official or a member of his or her family.

The evidence in this case does not support a violation of any statute under the Political Reform Act.

The Kern County District Attorney's Office does not have a single email, text message, transcript or any reliable statement that Supervisor Perez' decision on the cannabis vote was in any way compromised. Supervisor Perez has always executed her official duties objectively, legally and in the best interests of her constituents and the residents of Kern County.

It is apparent from the circumstances considered by the prosecutor that their case is based upon unreliable, unsubstantiated and conclusory statements which the defense is prepared to thoroughly discredit.

The filing of these charges is inappropriate and violates fundamental constitutional provisions. This prosecution appears to be discriminatory and motivated by reasons other than the fair, objective and just enforcement of the law. In this regard, Supervisor Perez has unlawfully been singled out and subjected to disparate and discriminatory treatment.

Specifically, there is at least one local elected official who was found to be in violation of the same statute charged here, *Government Code* section 87100, by the California Fair Political Practices Commission but who was not criminally prosecuted by Lisa Green's office. The defense is investigating other instances of disparate treatment involving alleged violations of the Political Reform Act, which were not criminally prosecuted but instead were adjudicated by the FPPC.

We intend to vigorously defend these charges. Supervisor Perez is entirely innocent .