



WILLIAM C. CAMPBELL
DIRECTOR

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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June 2, 2026

Mayor Joshua Garcia
Garcia Committee
2 Dunn Avenue
Holyoke, MA 01040

Re: CPF-25-123

Dear Mayor Garcia:

This office has completed its review of a complaint we received regarding mailers that were sent supporting Holyoke City Council candidates prior to the municipal election held on November 4, 2025. As a result of this review, we have concluded that the Garcia Committee (the "Committee") did not comply with M.G.L. c. 55, the Massachusetts campaign finance law.

Section 18A of the Massachusetts campaign finance law provides that every individual, group, association, corporation, labor union, political committee or other entity that makes independent expenditures in an aggregate amount exceeding \$250 during any calendar year for the express purpose of promoting the election or defeat of a candidate shall file an independent expenditure report within seven business days after the goods or services for which the independent expenditure was made are utilized. In addition, if such an independent expenditure is made after the tenth day, but more than 24 hours before the date of any election, then a preliminary report shall be filed within 24 hours after the goods or services are utilized. Reports required by this section shall be filed with the city or town clerk if the expenditures are made to promote the election or defeat of any candidate seeking public office at a city or town election who does not file with the director. See M.G.L. c. 55, § 18A.

Prior to the November 4, 2025 municipal election, multiple mailers were distributed in Holyoke that endorsed eight different candidates for Holyoke City Council. The mailers indicated that they were paid for by "The Committee to Elect Josh Garcia." Upon review, OCPF determined that the supported candidates were not involved in the creation or distribution of the mailers paid for by the Committee. Further, the candidates did not have any knowledge of these mailers prior to their distribution.



The Committee disclosed an expenditure for mailers on its October 2025 report. However, since this expenditure included payment for the mailers supporting the eight City Council candidates, an independent expenditure report should have also been filed with the Holyoke City Clerk. Further, since the mailers were utilized after the tenth day, but more than 24 hours before the date of the election, the independent expenditures should have been reported within 24 hours after the mailers were utilized. The Committee filed an independent expenditure report with the Holyoke City Clerk on April 17, 2026.

Based on our review, we have concluded that your failure to timely disclose independent expenditures did not comply with the campaign finance law. To resolve this matter, the Committee made a payment to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the amount of \$1,000. Because appropriate remedial action has taken place and all activity has since been disclosed, no further action is warranted at this time. We anticipate that the guidance provided during the course of this review will result in future compliance with the campaign finance law. However, further instances of noncompliance with the campaign finance law may result in referral to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 3 of the campaign finance law.

In accordance with the opinion of the Supervisor of Public Records this letter is a public record. As such, it will be placed in your public file. If you have any questions regarding this letter or any other campaign finance matter, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William C. Campbell", written in a cursive style.

William C. Campbell
Director

WCC/db

cc: Maribel Ortiz, Garcia Committee Treasurer
Brenna Murphy Leary, Holyoke City Clerk