

## COMPLAINT RECEIVED

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission received the enclosed complaint, COM-10092024-03769, on 10/9/2024 10:12:00 AM. The information filed in the complaint is below and any attachments filed will be included.

The following individuals are the named parties in this complaint:

Mary Beth Thompson  
Respondent

The Violations alleged are:

Conflict of Interest

N/A

Mary Beth Thompson, candidate for Sequoia Union High School District (SUHSD) Board, is currently serving as the Executive Director of Summit Prep Charter School which exists under the financial umbrella of the SUHSD. Candidate Thompson has publicly stated she will not resign her position as Executive Director of Summit Prep should she be elected to the SUHSD Board. For example she stated "she can serve on the board without resigning" in an August 29, 2024 Almanac Article (<https://www.almanacnews.com/election/2024/08/29/school-principal-aims-to-bring-educators-perspective-to-sequoia-board/>). I believe this is a financial conflict of interest in violation of Gov. Code 1099 and Ed. Code 1006. The CA Attorney General Ruling 22-802 from February 29, 2024 highlights "incompatible public offices" of an Executive Director of a charter school and a trustee of the governing board. The ruling also AG states:

"Section 1099 prohibits the simultaneous occupation of two public offices if "there is a possibility of a significant clash of duties or loyalties between the offices."

"when the Legislature authorized corporate charter schools, it expected the phrase "any employee of a school district" to include charter school employees"

Mary Beth Thompson's role as Executive Director of Summit Prep would be a clear financial conflict of interest should she be elected to the SUHSD Board as holding both positions are incompatible public offices with conflicting loyalties.