



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20463

January 27, 2023

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

flopezjr1@outlook.com  
Francisco Lopez, Treasurer  
GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr.  
P.O. Box 420575  
Del Rio, TX 78842

RE: MUR 7983  
GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr.

Dear Mr. Lopez:

On April 25, 2022, the Federal Election Commission (“Commission”) notified you of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended. On January 25, 2023, based on the information provided in the complaint, and information provided by you, the Commission decided to exercise its prosecutorial discretion to dismiss the allegations as to GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr. and you, in your official capacity as treasurer. The Commission then closed its file in this matter. A copy of the General Counsel’s Report, which more fully explains the Commission’s decision, is enclosed for your information.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Disclosure of Certain Documents in Enforcement and Other Matters, 81 Fed. Reg. 50,702 (Aug. 2, 2016). If you have any questions, please contact Jacob Tully, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1404.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Stevenson  
Acting General Counsel

*Roy Q. Luckett*

BY: Roy Q. Luckett  
Acting Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure:  
General Counsel’s Report

1 **BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**  
2  
3 **ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM**  
4 **DISMISSAL REPORT**  
5

6 **MUR:** 7983

**Respondent:** GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr.,  
and Francisco Lopez, Jr., in his  
official capacity as treasurer

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11 **Complaint Receipt Date:** April 20, 2022

12 **Response Date:** April 28, 2022

13 **EPS Rating:**  
14

15  
16 **Alleged Statutory/**

52 U.S.C. § 30104(a)-(b);

17 **Regulatory Violations:**

11 C.F.R. § 104.5(a)  
18  
19

20 The Complaint alleges that GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr., and Francisco Lopez, Jr., in  
21 his official capacity as treasurer (the “Committee”), the principal campaign committee of Francisco  
22 Lopez, Jr., neglected to file a quarterly report due April 15, 2022, which would have been the first  
23 disclosure report filed after Lopez registered with the Commission as a candidate.<sup>1</sup> In response to  
24 the Complaint, the Committee states that neither its contributions nor its expenditures exceeded the  
25 \$5,000 reporting threshold, and that, as a result, the 2022 April Quarterly Report was not due.<sup>2</sup> The  
26 Response states that Lopez spoke with the Committee’s assigned FEC Analyst who confirmed that  
27 the reporting requirement is triggered at the \$5,000 threshold and therefore no report was required  
28 until that point.<sup>3</sup> On April 27, 2022, the Committee filed FEC Form 99, stating that the Committee  
29 did not exceed the \$5,000 reporting threshold for contributions or expenditures during the reporting

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<sup>1</sup> Compl. at 1 (Apr. 20, 2022); *see* Francisco Lopez, Jr., Statement of Candidacy (Jan. 6, 2022); GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr., Statement of Org. (Jan. 6, 2022).

<sup>2</sup> Frank Lopez Resp. at 1 (Apr. 28, 2022).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

1 period ending March 31, 2022.<sup>4</sup> The Committee has since filed regular reports, starting with the  
2 2022 July Quarterly Report for the reporting period ending June 30, 2022.<sup>5</sup>

3           Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement  
4 Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and  
5 assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These  
6 criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity  
7 and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the  
8 electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in  
9 potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for  
10 Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating and the  
11 low dollar amount involved, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint consistent  
12 with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and

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<sup>4</sup> GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr., FEC Form 99 (Apr. 27, 2022).

<sup>5</sup> GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr., 2022 July Quarterly Report (July 14, 2022); GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr., 2022 October Quarterly Report (Oct. 15, 2022); GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr., 2022 Pre-General Report (Oct. 27, 2022); GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr., 2022 Post-General Report (Dec. 8, 2022).

MUR 7983 (GrassTroops for Frank Lopez, Jr.)  
EPS Dismissal Report  
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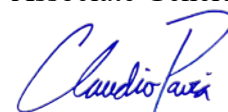
1 use of agency resources.<sup>6</sup> We also recommend that the Commission close the file and send the  
2 appropriate letters.

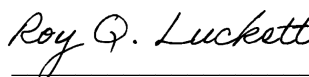
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4 Lisa J. Stevenson  
5 Acting General Counsel  
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8  
9 Charles Kitcher  
10 Associate General Counsel

11  
12 January 11, 2023  
13 \_\_\_\_\_  
14 Date

BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
15 Claudio J. Pavia  
16 Deputy Associate General Counsel

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19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 Roy Q. Lockett  
21 Acting Assistant General Counsel

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25 Jacob P. Tully  
Attorney

<sup>6</sup> *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985).