
LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION

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City Ethics Commission Levies \$14,710 in Fines for Campaign Finance Violations

At a public meeting today, the Los Angeles City Ethics Commission unanimously approved two settlement agreements related to the 2001 municipal elections and levied fines totaling \$14,710 for violations of the City's campaign finance laws. The Friends of Jim Hahn committee, an independent expenditure committee not controlled by Mayor James Hahn, paid a \$7,410 fine for accepting contributions of \$2,000 above the legal contribution limit and failing to disclose within 24 hours an independent expenditure the committee made to support then-Mayoral candidate Hahn in his 2001 election bid. Further, the committee failed to provide a copy of a flyer it distributed to voters to the Ethics Commission. The Commission serves as a repository for campaign literature so that it is available for public inspection.

In a separate matter, the Commission fined Albert H. Gersten II and GC Enterprises, a company in which he has an ownership interest, \$7,300 for exceeding the City's contribution limit. Gersten and his company made several contributions to Hahn's 2001 Mayoral campaign committee that totaled \$7,000 over the limit.

The levied fines are paid to the City of Los Angeles General Fund. The stipulated settlements approved by the Commission resolves all factual and legal issues without holding an administrative hearing.

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