

## Reporting Other Violations

Not all activities that seem “unethical” constitute an actual violation of the laws under the CEC’s jurisdiction, but may be a violation of a City department’s internal policy. To find out, you may contact the CEC and we’ll be more than glad to refer you to the appropriate agency.



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**CITY ETHICS COMMISSION**

The CEC has authority to investigate potential violations of campaign finance provisions, the municipal lobbying ordinance, and governmental ethics laws.

To review these laws and other CEC publications in detail, please visit our website at:

<http://ethics.lacity.org>

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**CITY ETHICS COMMISSION**

*...preserving the public trust.*

For information about the City Ethics Commission, its programs, and/or the laws discussed here, please contact our office.

**Address:**

Los Angeles City Ethics Commission  
200 N. Spring St. – CITY HALL  
24th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**General Office:**

(213) 978-1960 Phone  
(213) 978-1989 Fax

**24 Hour Whistleblower Hotline:**

1-800-824-4825

**TTY:**

(213) 978-2609

**Website:**

<http://ethics.lacity.org>



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**CITY ETHICS COMMISSION**

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# CEC Whistleblower Hotline

**1-800-824-4825**



## What is the CEC Whistleblower Hotline?

The Los Angeles City Ethics Commission (CEC) Whistleblower Hotline is a 24-hour, toll-free number that City officials, employees and private citizens can call to report potential violations of the following City laws and regulations about:

- Campaign Finance
- Municipal Lobbying
- Governmental Ethics

The hotline was created by City voters so that allegations of potential wrongdoing of these laws can be independently investigated by the CEC. City Charter § 702 (g) grants the CEC authority to assess fines of up to \$5,000 per violation, or three times the amount improperly given, received or reported, depending on the nature of the violation.

## Applicability

The laws described above can apply to City of Los Angeles elected officials, City employees, candidates for City office and for the Los Angeles Unified School District board members and candidates, campaign contributors, lobbyists and others.

## Reporting a Violation

A whistleblower complaint may be filed with the CEC either through our 24-hour Whistleblower Hotline, by calling the CEC directly, by mail, by fax, or interactively via our website. All contact information for filing a complaint is conveniently located on the back of this brochure.



*“committed to supporting and equipping an informed citizenry...”*

## Necessary Information

Individuals filing a complaint should be prepared to provide as much information as possible, including:

- A description of the incident;
- The date(s) and time(s) of the incident;
- The name and position title of the person and/or City department involved;
- The names and addresses of potential witnesses;
- The law(s) you suspect have been violated; and
- Any other information that you believe is relevant to support the allegation.

## Anonymity and Confidentiality

Whistleblower complaints may be filed anonymously. Whether individuals filing a complaint identify themselves or not, we encourage those individuals to provide sufficient contact information, such as a telephone number, in case additional information is needed. The CEC works to ensure that all the information you provide is treated confidentially, within the limits of the law. It is a violation of the City Charter for any CEC employee to reveal the identity of an individual who files a whistleblower complaint unless it is necessary to conduct an investigation or in the course of enforcement proceedings. The CEC will neither confirm nor deny the receipt or existence of any particular complaint or investigation.

## After Reporting a Violation

After receiving a violation that falls within its jurisdiction, the CEC will investigate the matter if a reasonable amount of information has been provided. Individuals who file a complaint and request to be notified of the complaint outcome will be contacted by the CEC after the matter has been closed.

## Retaliation

City law makes it a violation to retaliate against any person who reports a potential violation to the CEC or any other appropriate agency.