
LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION

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LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION URGES COMMISSIONER FUNDRAISING BAN

Following four months of public meetings, today the Los Angeles City Ethics Commission voted unanimously to urge the City Council and the Mayor to ban City commissioners from fundraising on behalf of City officials and candidates. If the recommendation is adopted, approximately 300 part-time citizen volunteer commissioners will be prohibited from soliciting contributions, lending their name for fundraising solicitations or identifying individuals for others to use for fundraising purposes during their tenure while serving on a City board or commission. The ban would extend to fundraising for any candidate for City office or any political committee controlled by an elected City official.

“An outright ban on commissioner fundraising is good policy and it’s the right thing to do,” said the Commission’s President Gil Garcetti. “I am confident that it will be eagerly embraced by every City commissioner and board member because it lets them keep their focus on their commission’s business.”

Recent published reports have indicated that there is a perception that the awarding of City contracts has been tied to commissioners’ fundraising efforts. The prohibition would not preclude commissioners from making their own personal political contributions.

Existing law does not require commissioners to disclose their fundraising efforts and therefore, there is no way to determine the full extent of such activities. The law, however, currently does not allow commissioners to solicit campaign contributions from any person who has a matter pending before their voting body currently or in the previous 12 months.

For more information, contact the City Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960.

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