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**LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION**  
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For Immediate Release: February 16, 2011

Contact: Jennifer Bravo (213) 978-1960

**INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES EXCEED \$900,000 IN LAUSD RACES**

Independent spending is heavy in the races for the four Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education (LAUSD Board) seats that will appear on the March 8 ballot. In District 1, incumbent Marguerite LaMotte faces challenger Eric Lee. In District 3, incumbent Tamar Galatzan faces challenger Louis Pugliese. In District 5, candidates John Fernandez, Bennett Kayser, and Luis Sanchez vie for an open seat. And in District 7, incumbent Richard Vladovic faces challengers Jesus Escandon and Roye Love.

To date, independent entities have made expenditures totaling \$928,823 to support and oppose candidates for LAUSD Board: nearly \$274,000 to support Marguerite LaMotte; over \$206,000 to support Tamar Galatzan; over \$165,000 to support Luis Sanchez; and nearly \$211,000 to support Richard Vladovic. In addition, independent expenditures for John Fernandez and Jesus Escandon exceed \$35,000 per candidate.

The last time these four seats appeared on the ballot, in March 2007, no independent expenditures were made to support or oppose LAUSD Board candidates, and contribution limits did not apply to them. Contribution limits for LAUSD Board candidates (\$1,000 per contributor per election) were adopted by the voters in 2007 and went into effect in the 2009 election cycle. In that election, independent expenditures totaled \$297,652.

Independent expenditures are expenditures of \$1,000 or more that are made to support or oppose candidates or ballot measures and are not coordinated with a candidate or a candidate-controlled committee. There is no limit to the amount that may be spent independently. City Charter § 803(s)(1) requires independent expenditures to be reported within 24 hours of being made. For this reason, independent expenditure numbers may change and are updated on the Commission's website daily.

For additional information about independent spending in the LAUSD Board races, please visit [http://ethics.lacity.org/disclosure/campaign/search/public\\_ie\\_search.cfm](http://ethics.lacity.org/disclosure/campaign/search/public_ie_search.cfm), or contact the Commission at (213) 978-1960.

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*The City Ethics Commission was created by Los Angeles voters in 1990 to impartially administer and enforce the governmental ethics, campaign financing, and lobbying laws of the City of Los Angeles.*