

**N E W S**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Helen E. Zukin Elected City Ethics Commission President for FY 08-09**

At its monthly meeting today, the Los Angeles City Ethics Commission elected Helen E. Zukin as its President for fiscal year 2008-09, and elected fellow Commissioner Sean P. Treglia as its Vice President. Zukin, with Kiesel, Boucher and Larson, has practiced civil litigation since 1985, with a focus on mass toxic torts, complex business cases, product liability, and environmental property damage. She was appointed to the Ethics Commission in 2006 by City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo for a five-year term ending June 30, 2011. Treglia was appointed to serve on the Commission in 2004 by then City Council President Pro Tem Cindy Miscikowski for a term ending June 30, 2009.

“It’s a privilege to serve as the Commission’s President,” said Zukin. “I look forward to continuing the important work of the Commission in fulfilling the voters’ mandate to ensure the highest ethical standards in city government.”

Commissioner Zukin has a distinguished record in public and community service. She has served as temporary judge in the Los Angeles County Superior Court system. Additionally, she served on the State Bar’s Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation, where she served as Chair as well as Chair of its Review Committee. She also has been active on the Board of Governors for the Consumer Attorney’s Association of Los Angeles. In the community, she serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Jewish University. In 2008, Zukin was elected a Trustee of the California Historical Society and was appointed to serve as a member of the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Ms. Zukin holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Juris Doctor from Loyola Law School.

The Commission is made up of five individuals appointed by a different elective City official to serve part-time, staggered five-year terms. The Mayor, City Council President, City Council President Pro Tem, City Attorney, and Controller each have an appointment. The Commission itself elects its own President and Vice President each year. Commissioners who serve a full five-year term are not eligible for reappointment.

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In addition to Zukin and Treglia, Commissioners presently serving on the Commission are Michael Camuñez, Paul H. Turner, and Nedra Jenkins.

The City Ethics Commission is a semi-independent agency created by the voters in 1990 to impartially administer and enforce the governmental ethics, campaign finance, and lobbying laws of the City of Los Angeles. With a staff of 27 and an annual budget of \$2.3 million, the Commission conducts training, provides advice, audits political campaigns, and makes legislative recommendations. It also is authorized by the voters to conduct investigations and levy administrative penalties against violators of the laws under its jurisdiction. Since its inception, the agency has levied more than \$2.8 million in penalties.

For more information, contact the City Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or visit the Commission's Web site at <http://ethics.lacity.org>.

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