
LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION
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**Ethics Commission Imposes Fines
Totaling \$185,000 In Two Money Laundering Cases**

The Los Angeles City Ethics Commission acted unanimously today to impose penalties in two enforcement actions involving political money laundering in City elections. In the first case, the commissioners approved a stipulation imposing a penalty of \$170,000 against Peter L. Barker (Barker) for soliciting and reimbursing his employees for making contributions in their names to City candidates. The Commission determined that, from September 2000 to June 2012, Barker illegally reimbursed 68 contributions totaling \$41,600 that were made to 14 different City candidates.

In the second case, the commissioners also approved a stipulation imposing a fine of \$15,000 against American General Corporation (American General) for laundering political contributions to a City candidate. American General used corporate funds to reimburse its employees and their relatives for six contributions totaling \$3,000 made between November 2008 and January 2009.

City law prohibits contributions that are made in the name of anyone other than the true source of the funds, because such contributions circumvent the City's campaign contribution limits and deprive the public of information about who financially supports City candidates.

"The Commission remains vigilant in upholding the contribution limits and protecting the integrity of Los Angeles City elections," said Neama Rahmani, the Ethics Commission's Director of Enforcement. "The Commission's actions are a reminder that anyone who launders political contributions in City elections will be held accountable."

All fines levied by the Ethics Commission are paid to the City's general fund. Copies of enforcement actions and the related decisions and orders can be obtained through the Ethics Commission's website or by calling the Ethics Commission offices.

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.