
LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION
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SERENA OBERSTEIN CONFIRMED AS NEW COMMISSIONER

The City Council unanimously confirmed Serena Oberstein on October 17 as the newest member of the Los Angeles City Ethics Commission. Ms. Oberstein is the Southern California Regional Director for Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice.

Ms. Oberstein previously served in Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's office, as a policy analyst and a liaison between with City staff and the public. She has also worked on policy issues for Partnership for Los Angeles Schools, New York City Small Business Services, and J Street. Ms. Oberstein also has experience working on campaigns for candidates running for City office. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the University of California, San Diego and a Master's in Public Administration degree from New York University.

"Commissioner Oberstein's experience in public policy, as former City staff, and with political campaigns makes her a valuable addition to the Ethics Commission," said Heather Holt, the Commission's executive director. "We look forward to working with her."

Ms. Oberstein was appointed by City Council President Pro Tempore Mitchell Englander to a five-year term ending June 30, 2019. She succeeds former commissioner Valerie Vanaman, whose term ended on June 30, 2014.

The Ethics Commission was created by voters in 1990 to administer and enforce the City laws that help ensure fair and transparent government decisions. It has five part-time commissioners, who serve staggered five-year terms and are appointed by the Mayor, the City Attorney, the Controller, the City Council President, and the City Council President Pro Tem. Ms. Oberstein joins President Nathan Hochman, Vice President Jessica Levinson, and Commissioner Erin Pak.

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