LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION

N E W S

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For Immediate Release: October 10, 2006

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CITY ETHICS COMMISSION DIRECTOR ISSUES PUBLIC ACCUSATION AGAINST CONTRIBUTOR FOR EXCESS CONTRIBUTION

Los Angeles City Ethics Commission Executive Director LeeAnn Pelham announced today that there is probable cause to believe that Dan S. Palmer, Jr. made an excess contribution to the "Committee to Elect Tony Cardenas" campaign in the 2003 special primary election in the Sixth Council District in violation of Los Angeles City Charter section 470(c)(3) by making two \$500 contributions to that committee in excess of the contribution limit established by the Charter. The matter will now go to the City Ethics Commission pursuant to City Charter Section 706(c) to determine whether a violation occurred. As in all cases referred to the Commission for an administrative hearing, the Respondent is presumed innocent of any violation of City law, unless and until such time that the violation is determined by the Commission at a public hearing.

Charter section 470(c)(3) establishes a \$500 per election limit on the total amount any candidate for City Council may receive from any person.

According to City law, following a finding of probable cause the Executive Director must make a public announcement of the Accusation. The Commission determines then if a violation has occurred, and it is authorized to levy fines of up to \$5,000 for each violation or three times the amount that was failed to be reported, or that was unlawfully contributed or expended, whichever is greater.

The Commission and its staff may not comment on this matter until after a final determination has been made. For a copy of the Accusation, please contact the Commission at (213) 978-1960.

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