N E W S

...preserving the public trust

For Immediate Release: August 10, 2012 Contact: Jennifer Bravo (213) 978-1960

ETHICS COMMISSION IMPOSES FINES TOTALING \$14,492 IN TWO INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE CASES

The Los Angeles City Ethics Commission acted yesterday to impose penalties in two separate enforcement actions arising out of independent expenditure communications made during the 2009 Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and City elections. In one case, the Ethics Commission unanimously approved a penalty of \$3,325 against the Pacific Palisades Democratic Club for distributing approximately 10,000 campaign mailers that failed to state that the mailer was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by the candidate.

In the second case, the commissioners voted three to one to approve a penalty of \$11,167 against the Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association Political Action Committee for placing approximately 160,000 automated telephone calls that failed to state that the committee paid for the calls and that the message was not authorized by a City candidate. The political action committee also failed to timely file a copy of the script or recording of the calls with the Ethics Commission.

In addition, the Ethics Commission unanimously approved four infraction stipulations, which carry no monetary penalty, for aggregated excess contributions made in 2011 by the following sets of contributors: AMT Construction Company, Inc. and Ebrahim "Abe" Kamara; Joia Trading, Inc. and Dae Yong Lee; Broadway & Eight Investments, LLC (dba The Chapman) and Spring Street Plaza, LLC; and Sweet People Apparel, Inc. (dba Miss Me) and Missmee.com, Inc.

The City Charter requires an independent expenditure communication for or against an LAUSD candidate to state that it was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate. City law also requires a committee making or incurring payments for 1,000 or more substantially similar recorded telephone calls for or against a City candidate to file a copy of the script or recording with the Ethics Commission within 24 hours of the first call. In addition, City law requires an independent expenditure communication of 200 or more live or recorded telephone calls in a calendar month to state that it was not authorized by a City candidate and to identify the committee that it was paid for by or made on behalf of.

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

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.