
LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION
N E W S
...preserving the public trust

For Immediate Release: February 10, 2014

Contact: Lisa Ishimaru (213) 978-1960

NEW ETHICS ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE TODAY

The Ethics Commission announced that revisions to the City's Governmental Ethics Ordinance (GEO) became effective today. The new GEO was approved by the City Council based on recommendations made by the Ethics Commission.

One of the primary changes included in the new GEO is eliminating its definition of "gift" and deferring to the state's definition. This change will reduce the confusion that is created by having separate state and City definitions. It will also ensure that the City's gift laws adapt with future changes made at the state level.

Other changes to the GEO include clarifications regarding the misuse of City resources, updated revolving door provisions, and stronger retaliation protections. The new GEO also establishes a Citywide contract database to identify City bidders and contractors. The new law requires the City to provide staffing and funding for the Ethics Commission to create the database, which will provide City officials and the public with critical information about City contracts and those involved with them.

The Ethics Commission will be publishing guides and information to help City officials, City employees, and the public understand and comply with the new GEO. A copy of the new GEO is available at ethics.lacity.org or by contacting the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960.

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.