N E W S

...preserving the public trust

For Immediate Release: February 13, 2014 Contact: Lisa Ishimaru (213) 978-1960

NATHAN HOCHMAN ELECTED ETHICS COMMISSION PRESIDENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014

At its meeting today, the Ethics Commission elected Nathan Hochman as president and Jessica Levinson as vice president. Hochman and Levinson will serve in these capacities for Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

Hochman is a partner at Bingham McCutchen, where he practices civil and criminal litigation, with a focus on white collar criminal defense and tax controversy matters. He served as the assistant attorney general for the tax division of the United States Department of Justice, as an assistant United States attorney for the criminal division of the Central District of California, and as a clerk for the United States District Judge Stephen V. Wilson in Los Angeles. Hochman was appointed by former City Attorney Carmen Trutanich in 2011, and his term on the commission will end June 30, 2016.

Levinson has extensive knowledge and background in election law and governance issues. She is an associate clinical professor at Loyola Law School, where she teaches courses covering election law and campaign finance. She has also lectured on election law issues for various educational institutions and civic organizations. Previously, Levinson was the Director of Political Reform at the Center for Governmental Studies, where she researched and wrote reports on election laws, campaign finance laws, ballot initiatives, term limits, primary elections systems, and redistricting. She also authored an *amicus curiae* brief for the United States Supreme Court regarding the constitutionality of public campaign financing. Levinson was appointed by City Controller Ron Galperin, and her term will end June 30, 2018.

The Ethics Commission is comprised of five individuals who serve staggered five-year terms. The Mayor, the City Attorney, the Controller, the City Council President, and the City Council President Pro Tem each have one appointment to the commission. The commissioners elect their own president and vice president each year. In addition to Hochman and Levinson, Erin Pak, Paul Turner, and Valerie Vanaman also serve as commissioners.

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.