## LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION N E W S

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For Immediate Release: May 13, 2015

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## **INDEPENDENT SPENDING EXCEEDS \$2.5 MILLION IN LAUSD RACES**

With less than one week remaining before the May 19 general elections, independent spending has surpassed \$2.5 million in the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education (LAUSD) races. Independent spending in the LAUSD District 5 race, alone, totals over \$1 million dollars.

To date, independent expenditures for the LAUSD candidate elections total \$2,640,159. Independent spending has reached the following levels in each of the three races:

- \$998,700 in LAUSD District 3.
- \$1,444,848 in LAUSD District 5.
- \$196,611 in LAUSD District 7.

Independent spending occurs when a person, including an organization, incurs certain costs for a communication that supports or opposes a candidate or ballot measure, and the communication is not coordinated with or authorized by a candidate. Currently, a person must report independent spending and provide a copy of the communication to the Ethics Commission within 24 hours of making or incurring the costs.

The general LAUSD and City elections will be held on May 19, 2015. Additional information about independent spending in these elections, including disclosure reports and campaign communications, is available on the "campaign finance" page at ethics.lacity.org.

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.