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For Immediate Release: August 17, 2011 Contact: Jennifer Bravo (213) 978-1960

New City Ethics Commissioner Confirmed

The City Council today unanimously confirmed attorney Nathan Hochman as the newest member of the City Ethics Commission. Hochman practices civil and criminal litigation at Bingham McCutchen, with a focus on white collar criminal defense and tax controversy matters. He previously 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 United States District Judge Stephen V. Wilson in Los Angeles. Hochman holds a Bachelor of Arts from Brown University and a Juris Doctor from Stanford Law School. He has also attended both Tokyo University and the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Hochman was appointed by City Attorney Carmen Trutanich to a five-year term ending June 30, 2016. Hochman succeeds former President Helen Zukin, who was appointed in 2006 by former City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo and whose term ended on June 30, 2011.

"Commissioner Hochman brings to the Commission's work a valuable perspective that is shaped by his experience in both defending and prosecuting violations of state and federal laws," said Heather Holt, the Commission's executive director. "We look forward to working with him and to benefitting from his experience."

The Ethics Commission was created by the voters in 1990 to administer and enforce the City laws that help ensure fair and transparent government decisions. It has five part-time commissioners, who serve staggered five-year terms and are appointed by the Mayor, the City Attorney, the City Controller, the City Council President, and the City Council President Pro Tem. Hochman joins President Paul Turner, Vice President Valerie Vanaman, and Commissioner Marlene Canter. The fifth seat on the Commission, a City Controller appointment, is currently vacant.

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.