## Los Angeles City Ethics Commission

## SPECIAL BULLETIN

November 24, 2009

## Los Angeles Federal Court Issues Ruling in Working Californians v. City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles City Ethics Commission

On Tuesday, November 24, the Federal Court in Los Angeles denied Working Californians' request for a Temporary Restraining Order in the case "Working Californians v. City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles City Ethics Commission." This means that the City's contribution limit for independent expenditure committees established by the voters in Los Angeles City Charter Section 470(c)5 is valid.

In sum, the Court ruled that the Plaintiff did not show a likelihood of success on the merits of the case because the City's contribution limit on independent committees is a contribution limit and not an expenditure limit and therefore subject to a lesser standard of scrutiny. The Court also found that the City showed a sufficient interest in preventing corruption and circumvention of its candidate contribution limits and that the limit was closely drawn to serve those interests.

For a copy of the Court's ruling, click <u>here</u>.

For additional information about the City's campaign finance laws, please contact the City Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960.