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## ETHICS COMMISSION IMPOSES FINES TOTALING OVER \$127,000 IN FIVE ENFORCEMENT CASES

At its meeting today, the Ethics Commission unanimously approved stipulated orders in five separate enforcement cases, imposing fines totaling \$127,227.

"The Ethics Commission's actions today demonstrate that people cannot commit violations of the City's campaign finance and governmental ethics laws without being held accountable," said Nathan Hochman, President of the Ethics Commission. "If they violate the law, the Ethics Commission will investigate and enforce against them."

Two of the cases involved respondents who admitted to political money laundering during the 2011 City elections. In the first case, Somaly Lor Sosa and Jose Jesus Sosa were fined \$62,500 for reimbursing employees, relatives, and other associates for 25 political contributions. In the second case, Donald Chae and his company, M + D Properties, were fined \$27,500 for using M + D funds to reimburse eleven individuals for political contributions.

The third and fourth cases also involved campaign finance violations. In one case, respondents Rudy Svorinich, Jr. and his campaign committee, Svorinich for City Council 2011, were fined \$15,000 for failing to file copies of six campaign communications during the 2011 election cycle. In the other case, an independent expenditure committee, LA Citizens for Fiscal Reform to Support Dennis Zine for LA City Controller 2013, was fined \$17,227 for spending over \$11,000 to produce and distribute a mailer that was nearly identical to a mailer previously created and distributed by the candidate, thereby making an excess contribution, and for failing to report the expenditure as a non-monetary contribution to the candidate's campaign.

In the fifth case, former City employee Daniel Ahadian was fined \$5,000 for violating the City's post-employment laws. Mr. Ahadian admitted to receiving compensation from a client to attempt to influence his former City department within three months of leaving City service and regarding a matter in which he personally participated while employed by the department.

All fines imposed by the Ethics Commission are paid to the City's general fund. Copies of enforcement actions and related decisions and orders are available 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.