

## Reporting Other Violations

Not all activities that seem unethical constitute an actual violation of the laws within the Ethics Commission's jurisdiction. However, some activities may violate a City department's internal policy. Feel free to contact us, and we will be happy to refer you to the appropriate agency.

*The Ethics Commission is authorized and required to investigate and enforce against potential violations of state and City laws regarding campaign financing, lobbying, conflicts of interests, and governmental ethics.*

## References

Los Angeles City Charter § 706

Los Angeles Municipal Code  
§§ 48.09, 49.5.16, 49.7.38

Los Angeles Administrative Code  
§§ 24.21–24.29



los angeles city  
ETHICS COMMISSION

The Ethics Commission is committed to helping individuals understand the laws that apply to them. Please contact us for more information about the laws or to report a possible violation.

### Address

200 North Spring Street  
City Hall – 24th Floor  
Los Angeles CA 90012

### Phone

(213) 978-1960

### Whistleblower Hotline

(800) 824-4825

### Fax

(213) 978-1988

### Web

[ethics.lacity.org](http://ethics.lacity.org)

### Email

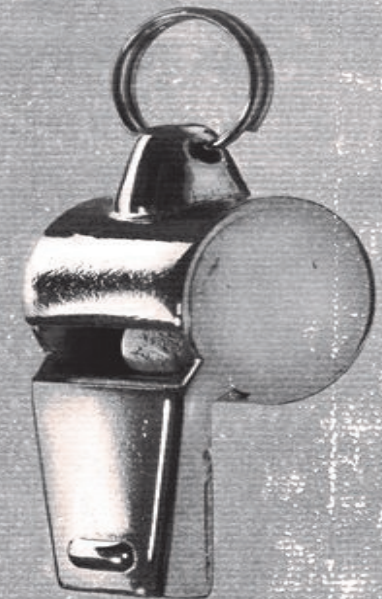
[ethics.enforcement@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.enforcement@lacity.org)

los angeles city  
ETHICS COMMISSION

*...preserving the public trust.*

# Whistleblower Hotline

## (800) 824-4825



The Ethics Commission is required by law to maintain a whistleblower hotline.

## Applicability

Anyone may use the Ethics Commission's whistleblower hotline to report potential violations of the following state and City laws:

- Campaign financing
- Municipal lobbying
- Governmental ethics

These laws can apply to persons who are active in City and Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education (LAUSD) elections, such as candidates, persons who make campaign contributions, and persons who spend money in an effort to influence an election. The laws can also apply to City and LAUSD elected officials, City appointed officials and employees, City lobbyists, and others.

## Reporting a Violation

You may file a whistleblower complaint 24 hours a day by visiting the enforcement page of our website, by calling or visiting our office, or by mailing, emailing, or faxing a written complaint.

After receiving a complaint that contains sufficient information, we will investigate the matter. If the members of the Ethics Commission determine that a violation occurred, they may assess administrative penalties up to



*"Committed to supporting and equipping an informed citizenry..."*

## Anonymity and Confidentiality

Whistleblower complaints may be filed anonymously. However, we encourage you to provide contact information, so that we can reach you if we need additional information.

The information you provide must be treated confidentially, unless the law specifies otherwise. It is a violation of the City Charter for any Ethics Commission employee to reveal information about whistleblower complaints and investigations unless it is necessary to conduct an investigation or in the course of enforcement proceedings. Therefore, we neither confirm nor deny the receipt or existence of any particular complaint or investigation.

## Retaliation

It is a violation of City law for a City official or employee to interfere with a person's ability to report a potential violation to the Ethics Commission or any other appropriate agency. It is also a violation of City law for a City official or employee to retaliate against a person who does report a potential violation.

the greater of \$5,000 per violation or three times the amount of money that was improperly given, received, or reported.

## Necessary Information

If you file a complaint, please provide as much information as possible, including the following:

- A description of the conduct that may be improper;
- The dates and times the conduct occurred;
- The name and title of the person or City department involved;
- The names and addresses of potential witnesses;
- The laws you suspect have been violated; and
- Any other information that you believe is relevant.