



## FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329  
(916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

**To:** Commissioners Eskovitz, Casher, Wasserman, and Wynne  
**From:** Lynda Cassady, Chief of Technical Assistance Division  
**Subject:** Report of Division Activities  
**Date:** October 31, 2013

---

### **Advice Requests**

Email advice requests January – October: 4,570

Telephone advice requests January – October: 9,267

Consultant Tara Stock, in conjunction with the Legal Division, prepared an analysis of the Act's gifts provisions for a proposed program titled, CalHR Healthier U Project. This wellness program may include raffles, discounts and economic incentives to participating state employees. Tara also researched and gathered data and statistical information to complete three annual COGEL surveys – the 2013 COGEL Blue Book Ethics Survey, the COGEL 2013 Lobbying Update, and the 2013 COGEL Blue Book Campaign Finance Update Questionnaire.

Consultant Barbara Smith retired after serving over eight years at the FPPC. Consultant Sarah Lang also recently moved to a position in a law firm after graduating from law school. We are interviewing many candidates and hope to have new staff hired before the first of the year. Both consultants provided advice in all areas of the law and will be missed.

Staff is working with the Commission's telephone service provider to transition to a new call center later this year.

### **Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests**

The SEI unit processes public requests for copies of Form 700 via phone calls and e-mails. To date, there have been over 2,030 statements requested and 11,561 pages copied or scanned.

### **SEI Approvals for Electronic Filing**

When an agency submits a request for approval of an electronic filing program for the Form 700, TAD staff gathers data from the agency and logs on to the agency's system and tests the application to ensure compliance with the Act's reporting requirements. Staff has approved 33 programs and there are nine programs currently under review. The IT department also reviews the programs to ensure proper security measures and related matters are addressed.

### **Form 801 - Gift to Agency Reporting**

A revised Form 801 was noticed for public comment. The form change is required following the recent amendment to FPPC Regulation 18950.1. This regulation addresses reporting

requirements when a state or local agency receives payments from third parties for the purpose of paying the travel expenses of governmental officials. Staff is working with the Legal Division on a FAQ informational sheet to assist agencies.

### **Form 802 – Tickets to Agencies and Form 803 – Behested Payment Reports**

Agencies are required to submit Form 802s which disclose ceremonial role events and ticket/pass distributions under the agency's ticket policy to the FPPC. We have received and processed over 1,000 Form 802s this year. Elected officials are required to complete the Form 803 to disclose payments made at their behest principally for legislative, governmental or charitable purposes, and these reports for state elected officials are forwarded to the FPPC. To date, we have received and posted payment information on the FPPC's website for approximately 400 behested payment reports.

### **Form 462 (Verification of Independent Expenditures) – FPPC filings**

To date, we have received Form 462 filings for over 200 state and local candidates and ballot measure committees. Staff expects a large increase in filings as we move into the 2014 elections.

### **Webinar Training**

We are encouraged by the positive feedback we have received on the new webinar training program conducted for campaign treasurers and for local filing officers who administer campaign filings. Over 20 webinars were conducted this year. We anticipate continuing to provide webinar training on a frequent basis in 2014.

### **Presentations**

I made a presentation at an educational event sponsored by the State Chamber of Commerce. The topic was campaign reporting and the seminar was held in Burbank. Trish Mayer and Alex Castillo traveled to Brea to make a presentation to over 100 clerks in the Southern California Clerk's Association on performing administrative duties for campaign forms and Form 700s. We were honored to have Commissioner Wasserman in attendance at this presentation so he would have firsthand insight into the content of our educational programs. Trish and Alex also made a joint presentation to over 30 clerks in Rosemead in administering campaign forms and Form 700s.

### **Filing Officer Outreaches**

Consultant Cynthia Fisher provided training to staff in San Benito County on performing their Form 700 filing officer duties; Cyndi Glaser provided training to staff in the California Health Benefits Exchange on Form 700 filing officer duties; and Consultant Ivy Branaman provided training to staff at the Air Resources Board on performing their Form 700 filing officer duties.

### **Conflict of Interest Code Review**

One of the high priorities in the next few months will be to address conflict of interest code issues as they relate to the Governor's new reorganization plan. Under the new plan, the number of agencies was reduced to improve organizational relationships in state government. Some agencies affected by the reorganization are the new Business and Consumer Services Agency, the new Government Operations Agency, and the new Transportation Agency.

Approved amendments and adoptions to conflict of interest codes include:

**State Agencies:**

Department of Child Support Services

Office of Traffic Safety

Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery

**Multi-County Agencies**

BART

California Home Financing JPA

Cachuma Resource Conservation District

Environmental Services, JPA

Firebaugh-Las Delta Unified School District

Napa County Conservation District

Westlands Water District