
LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION
N E W S
...preserving the public trust

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NEW REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE TODAY

The Ethics Commission announced that revisions to the regulations that govern its advice and opinions, as well as the regulations that govern its investigations and enforcement processes, became effective today. The new regulations were approved by the Ethics Commission and adopted by the City Council.

The City Charter requires the Ethics Commission to provide advice and to issue opinions to persons who are subject to the City's campaign financing, lobbying, and governmental ethics laws. The advice and opinion regulations govern those processes. Among other changes, the new regulations clarify that the Ethics Commission may initiate opinions on behalf of classes of regulated persons. The procedural details in the new regulations have also been clarified and streamlined.

The City Charter also requires the Ethics Commission to investigate complaints regarding and enforce against violations of the City's campaign financing, lobbying, and governmental ethics laws. The enforcement regulations govern those processes. Like the advice and opinion regulations, the new enforcement regulations clarify and streamline the procedural details for investigations and enforcement matters. The new regulations also enhance the Ethics Commission's ability to work with other City agencies that have investigative authority in cases of possible waste, fraud, and abuse in City government. The new regulations also add two provisions that mirror the Administrative Procedures Act and the enforcement regulations of the state's Fair Political Practices Commission. They authorize the Ethics Commission to seek sanctions from a civil court when a person interferes with the investigative or enforcement processes and to enter a default order when a respondent fails to communicate with the Ethics Commission in an enforcement matter.

The new regulations are available at ethics.lacity.org or by contacting the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960.

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.