



FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329

(916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

To: Chair Remke and Commissioners Casher, Eskovitz, Wasserman and Wynne

From: Lynda Cassady, Chief of Technical Assistance Division

Subject: Report of Division Activities

Advice Requests

We are receiving a high volume of telephone and email advice requests. Over 2,300 advice questions were answered in July. The number of requests per month is expected to rise as the November election approaches.

Phone counts January – July: 7,655

Email counts January – July: 6,631

Form 700-Approvals of Electronic Filing Systems

Staff has approved 68 programs to date and anticipate the number of certification submittals to significantly increase beginning early fall. Effective July 1, 2014, the limited term position ended and the division has had to assume additional workload with existing staff.

Consultant Ivy Branaman will be the lead consultant for the program. Currently there is one pending application.

SB 27 Implementation

Staff is developing the FPPC webpage and internal procedure for posting reports filed by state ballot measure committees and state primarily formed candidate committees.

Consultant Tara Stock prepared a revised fact sheet that outlines the information committees must provide to donors of \$5,000 or more. It addresses the new notification requirements for committees receiving a contribution of \$10,000 or more during the last

90 days before an election and committees that must send an expedited notice to multi-purpose committee donors of more than \$50,000.

Presentations and Workshops

I made a presentation covering an overview of the Act's provisions to the California Assessors Association on August 4th. It was very well received by the 150 attendees representing assessors and staff from 50 of the 58 counties. There was significant discussion of Form 700 reporting requirements and the Forms 801, 802 and 803. In addition, Program Analyst Rene Robertson provided training to staff at the Department of Consumer Affairs on performing Form 700 filing officer duties.

Webinar Training

Due to the overwhelming response for training on conflict of interest code amendments, three additional webinars were conducted in July by Consultants Deborah Hanephin and Ivy Branaman. There was a high level of interest in these webinars since many agencies need to amend their conflict of interest codes this year, and attendance averaged more than 50 participants. A recent comment on the webinar training from a county official was: "It was an excellent class and a good review of how to amend a conflict of interest code. The training should be mandatory for all agencies."

In September, webinars are planned for campaign treasurers on basic rules (e.g. ad disclaimer requirements, fundraising issues, general prohibitions), and a webinar will be conducted for political party treasurers.

Conflict of Interest Code Biennial Notices

Staff has begun to receive notices from multi-county agencies. Every local government agency in California is required to review its conflict of interest code in 2014 and submit a notice by October 1, 2014. The notice provides the FPPC with information on the type of amendment, if any, that may be required.

Conflict-of-Interest Codes

The chart below illustrates the number of state and multi county agency conflict of interest codes in which the Division has oversight responsibility, and the status of codes under various stages of review and approved from January 1 through July 31.

Conflict of Interest Codes 2014 Year-to-Date Workload	
State Codes	200
State Codes Under Review	60
State Code Approvals	8
Multi-County Codes	600
Multi-County Codes Under Review	120
Multi-County Code Approvals	16

The following conflict of interest code amendment was approved since my last report.

Association of Water Agencies

The chart below provides an overview of the division’s workload from January 1 through July 31 this year. Of interest is the filing of more than 500 Form 802s since my last report.

2014 Year-to-Date Workload	
Filing Schedules Prepared for 2014 elections	50
Seminars/Webinars/Outreach	44
Special Presentations	11
Campaign Form 462- IE Verification	510
Form 801 – Payments to Agencies	70
Form 802 – Agency Ticket Distributions	1,726
Form 803 – Behested Payment Reports	185

Personnel

Dixie Howard will be leaving the agency this month. Ms. Howard began working for the Commission in 1990 and most recently has served as Staff Services Manager II overseeing all educational programs and telephone advice. In addition, she recently volunteered to write the business concept of the Form 700 E-filing project; a significant undertaking. During her tenure she always demonstrated a strong dedication to the spirit and intent of the Political Reform Act. She will be missed and we all wish her well as she pursues other interests.