



California Fair Political Practices Commission

September 7, 1989

Rita Walters
Los Angeles School Board Member
P.O. Box 3307
Los Angeles, CA 90051

Re: Your Request for Informal
Assistance Our File No. I-89-417

Dear Ms. Walters:

This is in reply to your letter requesting advice concerning your reporting obligations under the conflict of interest disclosure provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act").¹

QUESTION

May you accept a gift of a \$100 travelers check from the Council of Black Administrators of the Los Angeles Unified School District?

CONCLUSION

You may accept the \$100 travelers check. However, you are required to report this gift on your Statement of Economic Interests (Form 730).

FACTS

You attended a function sponsored by the Council of Black Administrators of Los Angeles Unified School District. As a token of their appreciation for your leadership, the organization gave you a \$100 travelers check. This gift was not in connection with a speech or presentation on your part.

¹Government Code Section 81000-91015. All statutory references are to the Government Code unless otherwise indicated. Commission regulations appear at 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18000, et seq. All references to regulations are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations.

Rita Walters
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ANALYSIS

As a member of the Board of Education for Los Angeles County, you are required to report gifts of \$50 or more from a single source on your annual statement of economic interests. Section 82028 defines gift as "... any payment to the extent that consideration of equal or greater value is not received"

Since the gift you received was not in connection with a speech, article or published work on a subject relating to the governmental process, the gift would not come under the gift and honorarium limitation in Section 85400. Section 85400 provides that "no elected officeholder shall accept any gift or honorarium for any speech, article, or published work on a subject relating to the governmental process from any single source which is in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), in any calendar year, except reimbursement for actual travel expenses and reasonable subsistence in connection therewith."

If you have any other questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (916) 322-5662.

Sincerely,

Kathryn E. Donovan
General Counsel



By: Colleen McGee
Political Reform Consultant

BOARD OF EDUCATION
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
P.O. BOX 3307 / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90051
TEL. NO. (213) 625-6389

FPPC
Jul 14 1 24 PM '89

July 11, 1989

Fair Political Practices Commission
428 "J" Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Request for Advice Regarding the Acceptance of
a Gift from the Council of Black Administrators

To The Commission:

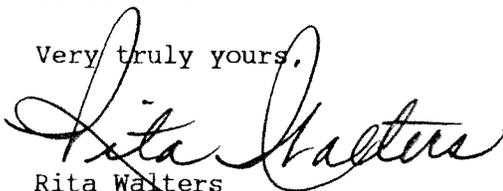
Your advice is requested as to whether or not I may accept a gift that was given to me by the Council of Black Administrators (COBA) of the Los Angeles Unified School District. I recently attended a function sponsored by COBA and was given a \$100 traveler's check as an expression of appreciation for my leadership on issues they believe to be important.

This gift was in no way connected with a speech or presentation or other action on my part. It was simply an unsolicited expression of appreciation by COBA.

Assuming that this gift is properly disclosed on my Conflict of Interest forms, am I permitted by law or your regulations to accept the gift, or must I return it?

Your written advice on this matter would be most appreciated. Should you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Rita Walters
Los Angeles School Board Member

RW:ew

cc: Richard K. Mason, Esq.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
P.O. BOX 3307 / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90051
TEL. NO. (213) 625-6369

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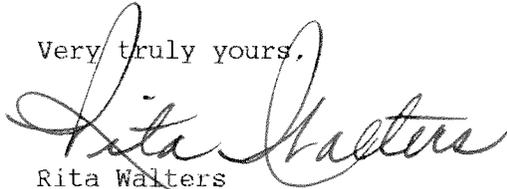
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Very truly yours,



Rita Walters
Los Angeles School Board Member

RW:ew

cc: Richard K. Mason, Esq.



California Fair Political Practices Commission

July 18, 1989

Rita Walters
Los Angeles School Board Member
P.O. Box 3307
Los Angeles, CA 90051

Re: Letter No. 89-417

Dear Ms. Walters:

Your letter requesting advice under the Political Reform Act was received on July 14, 1989 by the Fair Political Practices Commission. If you have any questions about your advice request, you may contact me directly at (916) 322-5662.

We try to answer all advice requests promptly. Therefore, unless your request poses particularly complex legal questions, or more information is needed, you should expect a response within 21 working days if your request seeks formal written advice. If more information is needed, the person assigned to prepare a response to your request will contact you shortly to advise you as to the information needed. If your request is for informal assistance, we will answer it as quickly as we can. (See Commission Regulation 18329 (2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sec. 18329).)

You also should be aware that your letter and our response are public records which may be disclosed to the public upon receipt of a proper request for disclosure.

Very truly yours,


Jeanne Pritchard
Chief Technical Assistance
and Analysis Division

JP:plh