

ORDINANCE NO. 1560

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO ADDING ARTICLE 7, RELATING TO CAMPAIGN REFORM, OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE SAN FERNANDO CITY CODE

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of San Fernando hereby ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 7 is added to Chapter 2 of the San Fernando City Code to read as follows:

"ARTICLE VII. CAMPAIGN REFORM

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY

Sec. 2-907. Purpose.

The purposes of this Article are:

(a) To eliminate the possibility of corruption or the appearance of corruption in local elections, arising as a result of disproportionately large political contributions, by adopting the least restrictive limits possible on the amounts of money any person may contribute or otherwise cause to be available to candidates for the city council and city treasurer and those who support or oppose such candidates;

(b) To eliminate the need for candidates and their supporters and opponents to seek large campaign contributions by establishing a realistic voluntary expenditure ceiling for campaigns;

(c) To promote informed actions by the electors of the city by requiring the full and truthful disclosure of contributions and expenditures in election campaigns;

(d) To inhibit improper or illegal campaign activity, and to ensure vigorous enforcement of this chapter; and

(e) Pursuant to California Government Code Section 81013 and Elections Code Section 10202, to impose contribution limitations and other regulations in addition to those imposed by state law, but that do not prevent any person from complying with state law.

Sec. 2-908. Definitions.

The following terms used in this Article shall have the meanings set forth below. Except as otherwise provided here, the terms and provisions of this Article shall have the meanings and shall be interpreted in accordance with the applicable definitions and provisions of the Political

Reform Act of 1974, as amended (Government Code Section 81000, et seq.) and the regulations of the California Fair Political Practices Commission, as amended.

(a) *Candidate* means any person who is a candidate for member of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, City Treasurer or any elective city officer whether or not such officer is a candidate for reelection.

(b) *Committee* means any person or combination of persons who directly or indirectly do any of the following in connection with supporting or opposing a candidate or candidates for City Council or City Treasurer:

(i) Receive contributions totaling five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more in a calendar year.

(ii) Make independent expenditures totaling five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more in a calendar year.

(iii) Make contributions totaling five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) or more in a calendar year.

A person or combination of persons that becomes a committee shall retain its status as a committee until such time as that status is terminated pursuant to California Government Code Section 84214.

(c) *Election* means any general election, special election or recall election.

(d) *Elective City Officer* means any person who is a member of the City Council of the City of San Fernando or City Treasurer, whether appointed or elected.

(e) *Person* means an individual, proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate, business trust, committee, company, corporation, limited liability corporation, association, and any other organization or group of persons acting in concert.

Sec. 2-909. Contribution Limitations.

(a) No person or committee shall make to any candidate, including the controlled committee of such candidate, a contribution in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) either cash or in-kind, for any single election at which the candidate is attempting to be, or is, on the ballot. Additionally, no candidate or candidate's controlled committee shall solicit or accept any contribution that will cause the amount contributed by the contributor to the candidate or the candidate's controlled committee to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for any single election at which the candidate is attempting to be, or is, on the ballot.

(b) The City Council may, by resolution, adjust the contribution limit established in subsection (a) in November of every even numbered year, to reflect any increase or decrease in

the California consumer price index since the last such adjustment of the contribution limit. Such adjustments shall be rounded to the nearest ten dollar (\$10.00) amount.

(c) The limitations of this Section shall not apply to contributions of a candidate's personal funds to his or her controlled campaign committee on behalf of his or her own candidacy, and shall apply to contributions from the candidate's spouse.

(d) Candidates with election accounts must open a new account for the next City election in which they are a candidate, and may contribute up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) from the old account into the new account.

SECTION 2. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council of the City of San Fernando hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance and such section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion may be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published and posted in accordance with the requirements noted in California Government Code Section 36933.

SECTION 4. The Mayor shall sign and the City Clerk shall attest to the adoption of this ordinance by the City Council of the City of San Fernando at the duly noticed regular meeting held on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of San Fernando at a regular meeting held on this 3rd day of January, 2005.

(d)(5) [Redacted signature]

Maribel De La Torre, Mayor

ATTEST:

(d)(5) [Redacted signature]

Elena G. Chávez, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

(d)(5) [Redacted signature]

Michael Estrada, City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS
 CITY OF SAN FERNANDO)

I, ELENA G. CHÁVEZ, City Clerk of the City of San Fernando, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the 3rd day of January, 2005 and was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: De La Torre, Ruelas, Veres, Martinez, Hernández - 5
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

(d)(5)

 Elena G. Chávez, City Clerk