FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 1, 2015

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jay Wierenga, FPPC

(916) 322-7761

## Fair Political Practices Commission welcomes new commissioner Maria Audero.

The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), California's governmental ethics and campaign disclosure agency, today welcomed the appointment of Maria Audero as the newest member of the Commission.

Governor Brown appointed Ms. Audero to the fill the position recently vacated by Sean Eskovitz, who had completed his four year term on the Commission.

Ms. Audero is a partner in the Employment Law practice at Paul Hastings and is co-chair of the Employment Law Department in the Los Angeles Office. Her practice emphasizes state and federal wage-and-hour nationwide class and collective actions, leave laws, discrimination, harassment, and retaliation claims. She has represented clients in a wide variety of industries, including financial services, entertainment, insurance, medical, restaurant and hospitality, education, automotive, aerospace, sports and consumer.

"I'm extremely pleased to welcome Commissioner Audero to her position and look forward to working with her in the coming years," said Commission Chair Jodi Remke. "We appreciate the Governor's decision in choosing someone of Commissioner Audero's caliber for this important role. The FPPC will remain diligent in being the national leader in governmental ethics, and we look forward to having Commissioner Audero's contributions and expertise added to this vital mission."

Ms. Audero is on the Executive Committee of the California Bar Association's Labor and Employment Law Section. She is also a member of the American Bar Association's Family and Medical Leave Act Section. In 2013, the ACLU honored her with its Pro Bono Services Award for her work as its outside employment counsel. In addition, the United Way recognized Ms. Audero's commitment to community involvement by nominating her for its 2013 Outstanding Women Leaders Champion Award. She received her J.D. degree *magna cum laude*, from Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles, where she was also Associate Editor of the Southwestern Law Review. She received her B.A. degree from UCLA.

Commissioner Audero will begin serving on the Commission immediately.