

State of California



Fair Political Practices Commission

P.O. BOX 807 • SACRAMENTO, 95804 ••• 1100 K STREET BUILDING, SACRAMENTO, 95814

Technical Assistance/Administration . . . Executive/Legal . . . Enforcement/Conflict of Interest
(916) 322-5660 322-5901 322-6441

August 2, 1976

John F. Van DeKamp
District Attorney
County of Los Angeles
Office of the District Attorney
18000 Criminal Courts Building
210 West Temple Street
Los Angeles CA 90012

76-08-227

Dear Mr. Van DeKamp:

Thank you for your letter of July 20, 1976, inquiring about the applicability of the opinion requested by the Honorable Kenneth Cory, 1 FPCC Ops. 137 (No. 75-094-C, Oct. 1, 1975) to the situation where an elected officer attends, at no expense, fundraising dinners or testimonials conducted for charitable purposes. It is the view of the staff that free admission and incidental benefits which are provided in connection with an elected officer's attendance at the types of functions to which you refer will not create any reporting obligations under the Political Reform Act.

Attendance at such functions by an elected officer involves what is essentially a political activity and, therefore, would be reportable, if at all, under Chapter 4 of the Political Reform Act. In light of the fact that Chapter 4 contains the relevant reporting criteria, the reasoning employed in the opinion requested by Mr. Cory is applicable to the types of functions you describe and the attendance of the elected officer constitutes adequate consideration for the benefits he receives.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kenneth Finney".

Kenneth Finney
Chief
Legal Division



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
 18000 CRIMINAL COURTS BUILDING
 210 WEST TEMPLE STREET
 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
 974-3501

JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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July 20, 1976

Mr. Kenneth Finney, Director
 Legal Division
 Fair Political Practices Commission
 1100 K Street
 Sacramento, California 95814

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Dear Mr. Finney:

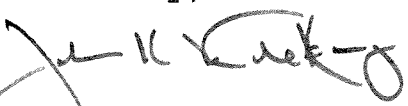
I have received and read with interest the Commission's Opinion No. 75-094-C wherein the Commission responds to an inquiry by The Honorable Kenneth Cory. The conclusion of the Commission was as follows:

"If an elected state officer attends a political fund raising dinner at the invitation of the sponsors without purchasing a ticket, the officer has no reporting obligations under the Political Reform Act. This conclusion is not altered by the fact that the officer attends the dinner for the specified purpose of making a speech."

An elected officer also receives, with some frequency, invitations from sponsors to attend, at no expense, fund raising dinners or testimonials conducted for charitable purposes.

I would assume that the same reasoning applies to this situation as to the previous question posed by Mr. Cory. Again, by virtue of his attendance, a benefit constituting adequate consideration is conferred upon the sponsors by the invited officer. Hence, no reporting obligation under the Political Reform Act arises. I write to inquire if this assumption is correct.

Sincerely,


 JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP
 District Attorney

mw

cc: Richard Miller, Esq.
 Compliance and Enforcement Section