



California Fair Political Practices Commission

January 4, 1993

Barbara J. Henricks
6350 Murietta Ave., Apt. 2
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Re: Your Request for
Informal Assistance
Our File No. I-92-650

Dear Ms. Henricks:

You have requested assistance under the conflict of interest disclosure provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act").^{1/} Because your request is a general inquiry, we treat it as one for informal assistance pursuant to Regulation 18329(c).^{2/}

QUESTIONS

1. Is information concerning gifts received by Superior Court judges available for public inspection?
2. Where are such records filed?

CONCLUSIONS

1. Superior Court judges must file periodic statements of economic interests (Form 721) disclosing certain assets and income, including gifts. These statements are public documents and are available for public inspection and reproduction.
2. Statements of economic interests filed by judges are retained by the Fair Political Practices Commission.

1/ Government Code Sections 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.

2/ Informal assistance does not provide the requestor with the immunity provided by an opinion or formal written advice. (Government Code Section 83114; 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18329(c)(3).)

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ANALYSIS

The conflict of interest disclosure provisions of the Act require public officials, including judges, to file periodic statements of economic interests (Form 721) disclosing certain personal assets and income, including gifts of \$50 or more received from a single source during the reporting period. The Fair Political Practices Commission is the filing officer for statements filed by judges.

Statements of economic interests are available for public inspection and reproduction. (Gov. Code Section 81008.) Copies of judges' statements of economic interests may be obtained through the Commission at a charge of 10¢ per page. However, the Commission may also charge a retrieval fee not to exceed five dollars per request for copies of statements which are five or more years old.

I hope this information has been helpful. If you have any questions, please contact the Technical Assistance Division at (916) 322-5662.

Sincerely,



Alice Hughes
Political Reform Consultant