



Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission

AGENDA STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: July 27, 2020

Agenda Item: Three

SUBJECT: Review and Approve Transmittal of 2020 Second Quarter Report to Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Second Quarter Report as drafted.

Background:

The Campaign Reform Ordinance provides that the Executive Director of the Commission shall prepare a quarterly report of the office's activities and submit it to the Commission prior to transmittal to the Board of Supervisors.

Specifically, Orange County Codified Ordinance section 1-2-359(k) provides "[t]he Executive Director shall prepare a quarterly report that will provide a general overview of activity. The Executive Director shall submit this report to the Commission for review before submission to the Board of Supervisors."

Attached as Exhibit A is the Second Quarter Report for 2020 that covers the period of April through June 2020.

Quarterly Report

April—June 2020

Office of Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission



April—June 2020

Project	Status
Ethics (AB 1234) Monitoring	ON GOING — As 2020 marks the biennial renewal, training reminders were sent out to all Commissioners who have not completed their training. There are 461 active Commissioners, 235 reminders were emailed out. Currently 203 Commissioners are non-compliant. A list was provided to the Board of Supervisors, the Department Heads, and the Board, Committee, and Commission’s contact person. A final reminder will be sent in October. In person training has been requested and a live training program is being developed.
Newly Elected and Appointed Official and Staff training program	COMPLETED —All elected officials and staff as of December 2019 have received the approved training. A new program will be developed in 2021 based on identified improvement potential.
Campaign Disclosure Review	ON GOING — Audits for 2020 begin in August.
Education Outreach	ON GOING — Public outreach was on hold due to Covid restrictions.

April—June 2020

Project	Status
Lobbyist Portal/registration	ON GOING —In-house project has been a complete success. New registrations continue even during the time of the nationwide social distancing programs. Moreover, lobbyists continue to contact the office to update information as required by law.
Finance and Budget	ON GOING —All non-discretionary spending has been frozen in all County departments. The current Covid-19 crisis is requiring each County department to do everything possible to conserve and assist in everyway possible. OCEthics stopped the acquisition of the on-line database for the AB1234 ethics certificate tracking and has suspended hard copy correspondence except in the cases of Notices of Violations.
Complaint Program	ON GOING — A total of 11 written complaints were received through June 2020. One remains open while the others were not within the office’s jurisdiction. Multiple calls are received on a weekly basis but are being referred to proper local, County or State services.

Summary of 2020 Complaints:

20-01: Complaint received on May 21, 2020 related to Shea. Ongoing complaint, placed in folder related to complainant. No jurisdiction, no action taken. Closed.

20-06: Complaint received on April 3, 2020 related to barber shop located in Westminster violating Covid shutdown. Provided contact information to file complaint. No jurisdiction. Closed.

20-07: Complaint received on April 24, 2020 related to numerous reporting errors in connection with the Committee for Ashley Atkin for Supervisor 2020. Researched and responded. Found documentation that the Committee has properly reported the cash on hand as well as expenses. Letter sent to complainant. Closed.

20-08: Complaint received on May 8, 2020 related to County of Orange employees and the stay at home order. No jurisdiction, information forward to correct agency. Closed.

20-09: Complaint received on May 14, 2020 related to boat slips and leases in Dana Point Harbor. Responded and provided information seeking to file Government Claim against the County. No jurisdiction. Closed.

20-10: Complaint received on May 22, 2020 related to health hazard on the paths in the City of Lake Forest. Provided information to the City of Lake Forest's Code Enforcement Division. No jurisdiction. Closed.

20-11: Complaint received on May 26, 2020 related to Covid and police officers. No jurisdiction, no action taken. Closed.

20-12: Complaint received on May 30, 2020 related to pharmaceuticals. No jurisdiction, no response. Closed.

20-13: Complaint received on June 3, 2020 related to discrimination in a protective order. No jurisdiction – no action; closed.

20-14: Complaint received on June 11, 2020 related to the County of Orange Probation Department employee. Responded and provided resources for the complaint. Closed.

20-15: Complaint received on June 14, 2020 related to social distancing and no masks worn at a rooftop and elevator of a hotel located in Irvine, CA. Not within jurisdiction and the correct group of contacts was included in the initial complaint. Closed.