

Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission

AGENDA STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: January 13, 2025

Agenda Item: Three

<u>SUBJECT</u>: Review and Approve Transmittal of 2024 Fourth Quarter Report to Board of Supervisors.

<u>RECOMMENDED ACTION</u>: Approve Fourth Quarter Report as drafted or recommend changes.

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 Fourth Quarter Report for 2024 that covers the period of October through December 2024.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND ETHICS COMMISSION



Fourth Quarter Report October - December 2024



October - December 2024

Responsibility	Status
Ethics (AB 1234) Education Program	99% compliance rate for individuals who are required to complete the AB1234 Ethics Training. By December 31st only 3 individuals remained outstanding and needed to be removed from their positions.
Newly Elected and Appointed Official and Staff training program	We have completed one training session with Supervisor Nguyen's staff and are working to schedule the remaining sessions. No update to the training program was needed as there has been no change in the materials covered.
Campaign Disclosure Review /Audits	Audits for the second disclosure of 2024 will begin in the end of January. The post-election audits have been completed with no errors found.
Education Outreach	In October, we spoke to the League of Woman's Voters on the topic of government transparency. The session was warmly received and brought about an invitation from another group to speak in May 2025.

October - December 2024

Project	Status
Lobbyist Registration	The renewal process began in November and saw a number of lobbyists not renewing. As of year end there were a total of 70 active lobbyists. Registration and renewal revenues for 2024 remained consistent with previous years, amounting to approximately \$4,600.
Finance and Budget	Our office participated in the Metrics Workshop organized by CEO Budget and finalized the creation of the Department's Mission, Goals, and Strategies, which will be included in the FY 25-26 Budget Book.
Complaint/Advice Program	This year we only received one complaint that was potentially within jurisdiction. After analysis it was determined that no action could be taken. The number of complaints not within jurisdiction totaled 6. We continue to received hundreds of emails from individuals who do not understand the function of the office or the Commission. In at least one instance informing the complaining party of the lack of authority only exacerbated the number of emails received from her. In total more than 170 emails were received from this one source from June to December.