

Applicants for City Boards and Commissions

Conflict of Interest

As an applicant for a City board or commission, you should be aware of the following conflict of interest statutes that you must comply with if appointed:

1. Political Reform Act: If you are a member of a board or commission with “decision-making” authority, you will be required to file an assuming office statement and a leaving office statement and an annual statement delineating your financial holdings and sources of income. Additionally, if any matter comes before you which may affect you financially, you will be required to abstain and take no part in deciding the matter.
2. Government Code Section 1090. Even if you are on an advisory board or commission and have no decision-making power, and even if you abstain, the City may not enter into a contract in which you are financially interested and which comes before you for consideration.
3. Charter Section 608. The City Charter contains further prohibitions. The Section reads in full as follows:

“No member of the city council or officer of the City, shall be financially interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract, sale or transaction to which the City is a part and which comes before the board or commission of which such person is a member for approval or other official or which pertains to the department, office or agency of the City with which such board or commission is connected.

Any such contract, sale or transaction in which there shall be such an interest shall become void at the election of the City, when so declared by resolution of the city council.

No member of the city council or officer of the City, or member of any board or commission shall be deemed to be financially interested, within the meaning of the foregoing provisions, in any contract made with a corporation by reason of the ownership of stock in such corporation unless said stock so owned by him shall amount to at least three percent of all the stock of such corporation issued and outstanding.

If any member of the city council or officer of the City or member of a board or commission shall be financially interested as aforesaid, upon conviction thereof, he shall forfeit his office in addition to any other penalty which may be imposed for such violation of this Chapter.”

For further information concerning these provisions, you should contact the City Clerk and/or City Attorney. Their telephone numbers are as follows: #209-388-7100 and #209-385-6868.