



PRESS RELEASE

Ethics Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 15, 2011

CONTACT:

Stacey Fulhorst
San Diego Ethics Commission
(619) 533-3476

ETHICS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT WITH FORMER CITY CANDIDATE ROBERT ILKO CONCERNING VIOLATIONS OF CAMPAIGN LAWS

Stacey Fulhorst, Executive Director of the City of San Diego Ethics Commission, announced today the Commission's approval of a stipulated settlement agreement with Robert Ilko, a candidate for City Council District 5 in the June 4, 2008, primary election who withdrew from the race in March of 2008. Mr. Ilko agreed to pay a \$2,000 fine in connection with the following violations of the City's campaign laws discovered during the course of a Commission audit:

- failing to disclose 10 contributions totaling \$1,200;
- failing to disclose a personal loan to his campaign in the amount of \$5,000;
- failing to disclose a payment to a campaign consultant in the amount of \$1,750; and
- failing to maintain any records associated with 27 contributions totaling \$3,220.

According to Ms. Fulhorst, "the disclosure of contributions and expenditures is a fundamental component of the City's campaign laws." In addition, Ms. Fulhorst explained that the failure to retain contributor records prevented the Commission's auditor from verifying the source and amount of contributions disclosed on campaign statements.

Commission Chairman Clyde Fuller commented that "even grassroots candidates must comply with the basic disclosure and recordkeeping requirements." He added that the fine would likely have been substantially higher if Mr. Ilko had remained in the race and appeared on the ballot.

Ethics Commission fines are paid to the City of San Diego's General Fund. The stipulated settlements approved by the Commission resolve all factual and legal issues without the necessity of holding an administrative hearing.

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