



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PRESS RELEASE

Ethics Commission

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**ETHICS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT
WITH FORMER CITY CANDIDATE RICHARD RIDER
CONCERNING VIOLATION 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 Richard Rider, a former candidate for Mayor in the July 2005 special election. Mr. Rider has agreed to pay a \$250.00 fine in connection with the failure to report eight campaign contributions totaling \$1,300.00 and three campaign expenditures totaling \$391.15.

According to Ms. Fulhorst, the failure to disclose contributions and expenditures is generally viewed as a serious violation of the City's campaign laws. She noted, however, that in this case, the violations of law were mitigated by the fact that Mr. Rider was an inexperienced, grassroots candidate with a volunteer treasurer. Moreover, she pointed out that the amount of contributions that were not reported constituted only two percent of the total contributions received by the committee.

Commission Chairman, Richard Valdez, commented that the Commission thought the amount of the fine was appropriate given the factors in mitigation. However, he added that "even grassroots candidates must comply with the City's campaign laws."

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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