

Interactions with Voice of San Diego

“Committee That’s Supposed to Watchdog SDG&E Still Isn’t Whole”

Feb. 16, 2023

Question:

I’m writing a story today on deadline about the vetting of nominees for the [Franchise Compliance Review Committee](#).

- 1) I want to know what kind of conflict of interest inquiries/research/vetting the city has already done on these nominees.
- 2) Were there any specific requests for the city attorney’s office to look into these nominees? What were they and the outcome?

Response:

Under current City procedures, appointees to City boards, committees, and commissions are vetted for conflicts of interests by the appointing authority. That is, the Mayor’s Office would vet potential appointees by the Mayor and the Office of Council Administration would vet potential appointees by the City Council. Upon request, the City Attorney’s Office can assist and advise in this work in advance of an appointment. Post-appointment, if an issue relates to the City’s Ethics Ordinance, the Ethics Commission would review.

Communications with our client that contain or discuss our legal advice are protected by the attorney-client privilege.

Question:

Can you confirm whether there were any requests for city attorney’s office to assist or advise in the case of Franchise Compliance Committee nominees?

Response:

The City Council did not seek our Office’s assistance or advice in vetting these appointments.
