

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

PRESS RELEASE

Ethics Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ETHICS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENTS WITH CITY OFFICIALS CONCERNING ECONOMIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

The San Diego Ethics Commission announced today that it has taken action to enforce the economic interest disclosure requirements set forth in the Ethics Ordinance. The Commission voted unanimously to approve settlement agreements with the following four City Officials who have agreed to pay a fine in connection with the late filing of their Statements of Economic Interests:

- Larry Arceneaux, consultant to the Centre City Development Corporation
- Daisy Gonzalez, member of the City Heights Project Area Committee
- Dorothy James, member of the Housing Advisory and Appeals Board
- Anthony Sutton, consultant to the San Diego City Employees Retirement System

The above-referenced officials paid fines ranging from \$100 to \$400 depending upon the underlying circumstances and any factors in aggravation, such as previous late filings. All of these settlement agreements were made by way of stipulations that can be viewed on the Commission's website at www.sandiego.gov/ethics.

The Ethics Ordinance requires all City Officials to file an annual Statement of Economic Interests disclosing their investments, interests in real property, loans, gifts, and sources of income that could potentially present a conflict of interest when participating in municipal decisions. According to the Commission's Executive Director Stacey Fulhorst, "The disclosure of economic interests is one of

the fundamental provisions of the Ethics Ordinance because it provides the transparency necessary to assure the public that City Officials are not influencing municipal decisions that could affect their personal economic interests." Ms. Fulhorst pointed out that the City Clerk's Office contacts each filer well in advance of the filing deadline, and sends a follow-up notice if the form is not timely received.

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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