



PRESS RELEASE

Ethics Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, October 15, 2010

CONTACT:

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

ETHICS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT WITH “STRONG MAYOR” BALLOT MEASURE COMMITTEE 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 San Diegans for Accountability at City Hall, a committee formed to support the “strong mayor” measure on the June 8, 2010, ballot. The committee agreed to pay a fine of \$500 for failing to properly identify itself as the entity that paid for a campaign mailer distributed to approximately 170,000 City residents before the election.

Ms. Fulhorst explained that although the committee disclosed its name and address on the mailer, it neglected to precede that disclosure with the phrase “paid for by” as required by local law. She further explained that a significant factor in mitigation was the fact that the committee self-reported its violation. According to Commission Chair Larry Westfall, “The fine would have been substantially higher if the committee had not taken the initiative to bring this matter to the Commission’s attention.”

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.

#####