ETHICS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT WITH PLANNING COMMISSIONER CONCERNING ECONOMIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

Stacey Fulhorst, Executive Director of the City of San Diego Ethics Commission, announced today the Commission’s approval of a stipulated settlement agreement with Timothy Golba, a member of the City’s Planning Commission. Mr. Golba has agreed to pay a fine in the amount of $3,000 for failing to timely disclose income received from clients of his architectural firm on his 2008, 2009, and 2010 Statements of Economic Interests. Ms. Fulhorst explained that, although Mr. Golba disclosed the income he received from Golba Architecture Inc., he neglected to identify the names of clients who paid his firm $10,000 or more in each of the three calendar years.

The Commission Chairman, Clyde Fuller, explained that the disclosure of personal financial interests is the foundation of the City’s ethics laws. “Without it, the public would have no way of knowing if City Officials were participating in decisions that could benefit their personal investments or sources of income.” Chairman Fuller noted that in this case, the investigation confirmed that Mr. Golba has been very diligent in recusing himself from participating in any Planning Commission decisions that involve the clients of his architectural firm. According to Chairman Fuller, the fine would have been substantially higher in the event that the City’s conflict of interest laws had been violated.

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.