



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

August 14, 2015

Mr. Aaron Rios
San Diego Consumer for Choice, sponsored by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 801
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: San Diego Consumers for Choice, sponsored by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (ID #
1333137)

Dear Mr. Rios:

The Ethics Commission audit of the above-referenced committee is now concluded, and the Final Audit Report is enclosed. This report was delivered to the Ethics Commission at its regularly-scheduled meeting held on August 13, 2015. The Commission observed that the findings reflected in the Audit Report indicate that the committee substantially complied with local campaign laws. As a result, the Commission voted to accept the report.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Rosalba Gomez
Audit Program Manager

Enclosure

cc: Thomas W. Hiltachk, Treasurer
Bell, McAndrews & Hiltachk, LLP
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ethics Commission

1010 Second Avenue, Suite 1530 • San Diego, CA 92101
Tel (619) 533-3476 Fax (619) 533-3448





THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FINAL AUDIT REPORT

August 6, 2015

Mr. Thomas W. Hiltachk
San Diego Consumers for Choice, sponsored by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600
Sacramento, CA 95814

Treasurer: Thomas W. Hiltachk
Bell, McAndrews & Hiltachk, LLP
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600
Sacramento, CA 95814

SAN DIEGO ETHICS COMMISSION AUDIT REPORT:

San Diego Consumers for Choice, sponsored by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

I. Introduction

This Audit Report contains information pertaining to the audit of the committee, San Diego Consumers for Choice, sponsored by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Identification Number 1333137 ("the Committee") for the period from October 21, 2010, through March 31, 2011. The Committee was selected for audit by a designee of the City Clerk in a random drawing conducted at a public meeting of the Ethics Commission held on September 12, 2013. The audit was conducted to determine whether the Committee materially complied with the requirements and prohibitions imposed by the City of San Diego's Election Campaign Control Ordinance (San Diego Municipal Code Chapter 2, Article 7, Division 29). This Committee operated under the previous ECCO, and therefore all Code references in this report relate to the provisions of ECCO that were in effect prior to January 1, 2013.

During the period covered by the audit, the Committee reported total contributions of \$1,369,137.12 (inclusive of \$21,199.40 in non-monetary contributions) and total expenditures of \$1,347,968.22. Total cash contributions relative to total expenditures resulted in a \$30.50 differential that was reconciled by the Committee's miscellaneous increase to cash. **The audit revealed no material findings. The committee substantially complied with the disclosure and record-keeping provisions of the San Diego Election Campaign Control Ordinance.**

II. Committee Information

On October 19, 2010, the Committee filed a Statement of Organization with the San Diego City Clerk indicating that it qualified as a committee. The Committee was formed to support a referendum opposing the Ordinance to Protect Small and Neighborhood Businesses. The Committee submitted the

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referendary petition to the City Clerk on December 29, 2010, the City Clerk certified the petition signatures on January 25, 2011, and the City Council rescinded the subject ordinance on January 31, 2011. On April 29, 2011, the Committee filed a Statement of Termination indicating that its filing obligations were completed on March 31, 2011. The Committee's treasurer was Thomas W. Hiltachk of Bell, McAndrews & Hiltachk, LLP.

III. Audit Authority

The Commission is mandated by San Diego Municipal Code section 26.0414 to audit campaign statements and other relevant documents to determine whether campaign committees comply with applicable requirements and prohibitions imposed by local law.

IV. Audit Scope and Procedures

This audit was performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The audit involved a thorough review of the Committee's records for the time period covered by the audit. This review was conducted to determine:

1. Compliance with all disclosure requirements, pertaining to contributions, expenditures, accrued expenditures, and loans, including itemization when required;
2. Compliance with applicable filing deadlines;
3. Compliance with restrictions on contributions, loans and expenditures;
4. Accuracy of total reported receipts, disbursements and cash balances as compared to bank records; and
5. Compliance with all record-keeping requirements.

V. Conclusion

Through the examination of the Committee's records and campaign disclosure statements, the Auditor verified that the Committee timely disclosed all contributions received and all expenditures made, and that the Committee maintained all necessary documentation regarding contributions and expenditures in accordance with disclosure and record-keeping provisions of ECCO. **As a result, the Auditor determined that there were no material findings. The Committee substantially complied with the disclosure and record-keeping provisions of the San Diego Election Campaign Control Ordinance.**

[REDACTED]

Rosalba Gomez
Audit Program Manager

Date

[REDACTED]

Stacey Fulhorst
Executive Director

Date