

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
ETHICS COMMISSION**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: November 6, 2008

TO: Nader Tirandazi, Financial Management Director, M.S. 9B

FROM: Stacey Fulhorst, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Additional Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Adjustments

I have reviewed the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Amendment Report No. 08-166, and it is my understanding that the Ethics Commission is now being asked by the Mayor's Office to identify 10% reductions in its current fiscal year budget in light of the critical financial difficulties currently facing the City. Accordingly, in addition to the non-personnel reductions totaling \$10,000 proposed in my previous memorandum dated October 21, 2008, the Ethics Commission proposes eliminating the position of Training Aide from its staff. This position is currently identified in the budget as an Associate Management Analyst (class 1218) with an annual budgeted salary of \$64,335 and associated fringe benefits of \$31,408. With the elimination of this position and the \$10,000 reduction in non-personnel expenditures, the Commission will achieve a total savings of \$57,872 (approximately 11.5% of the Commission's budget) for the second half of the current fiscal year.

If the foregoing budget reductions are extended into fiscal year 2010, the savings would amount to a total of \$95,743 in personnel costs and \$10,000 in non-personnel costs. (The proposed mid-year reductions would essentially be doubled with respect to personnel costs but would remain the same for non-personnel costs.) This would equate to a total reduction of approximately 10.5% of the total annual budget of the Ethics Commission.

It is relevant to note that the elimination of the Training Aide position will have an adverse impact on the Commission's ability to carry out its duties and responsibilities with respect to education and outreach. The Commission recognizes, however, that the current fiscal situation requires sacrifices from all City departments, and the limited staff remaining at the Commission will endeavor to minimize the adverse impacts of the proposed reductions.

On a separate but related note, the information included in Report No. 08-166 indicates that the Ethics Commission is projected to be slightly over budget by the end of the current fiscal year (assuming no reductions to personnel and non-personnel costs). I do not believe that this projection is accurate. Even without any of the above-referenced reductions, the Ethics

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Commission should complete the fiscal year approximately \$15,000 under budget. This amount reflects unused expenditures associated with a personnel vacancy during the early portion of the fiscal year.

If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience at (619) 533-3477. Thank you.

Stacey Fulhorst
Executive Director

cc: Guillermo Cabrera, Chair, City of San Diego Ethics Commission
Jay Goldstone, Chief Operating Officer
Mary Lewis, Chief Financial Officer
Andrea Tevlin, Independent Budget Analyst
City Councilmembers