

Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission

AGENDA STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 27, 2025

Agenda Item: Two

<u>SUBJECT</u>: Review and Approve Transmittal of 2025 Third Quarter Report to Board of Supervisors.

<u>RECOMMENDED ACTION</u>: Approve Third Quarter Report as drafted or recommend changes.

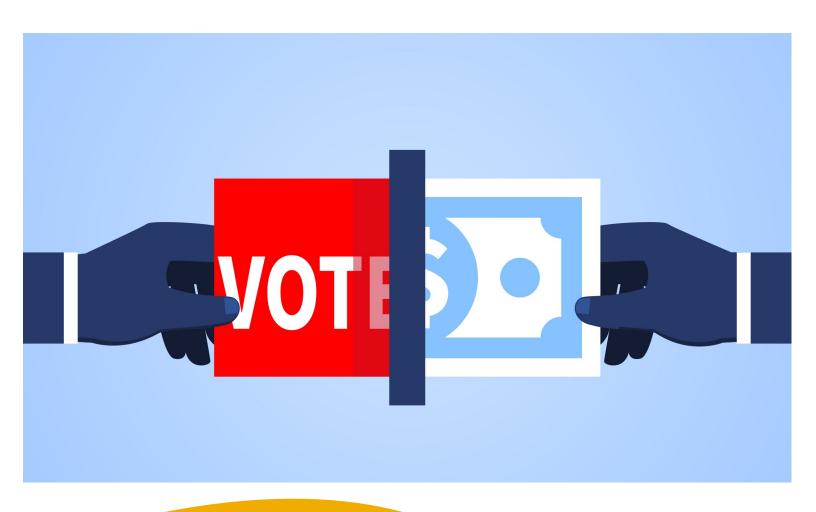
Background:

The Campaign Reform Ordinance provides that the Executive Director of the Commission shall prepare a quarterly report of the office's activities and submit it to the Commission prior to transmittal to the Board of Supervisors.

Specifically, Orange County Codified Ordinance section 1-2-359(k) provides "[t]he Executive Director shall prepare a quarterly report that will provide a general overview of activity. The Executive Director shall submit this report to the Commission for review before submission to the Board of Supervisors."

Attached as Exhibit A is the Third Quarter Report for 2025 that covers the period of July through September 2025.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND ETHICS COMMISSION



Third Quarter Report July - September 2025



July - September 2025

Responsibility	Status
Ethics (AB 1234) Education Program	The Office reached out to approximately 25 BCC members to facilitate completion of their Ethics Training. We also contacted their BCC contacts.
Newly Elected and Appointed Official and Staff training program	No new trainings were conducted or needed in this quarter.
Campaign Disclosure Review /Audits	Audit of the first semi-annual report for 2025 was conducted. No notices of violations were issued. A total of 13 refunds were requested for a total amount of approximately \$10,500.
Education Outreach	CPO ethics training was completed in September. The presentations was redone to reflect the changes to the County Contract Manual and the changes in California law.

July - September 2025

Project	Status
Lobbyist Registration	The number of lobbyists remained stable at 73 this quarter.
Finance and Budget	The office is now working on the 26-27 annual budget which began immediately after the Strategic Financial Plan was submitted. We also conducted a fee survey and determined the current fees being charged in the lobbyist program requires General Fund support. The current \$75 registration fee only recovers about 25% of the programs cost.
Complaint/Advice Program	No complaints within jurisdiction have been received in the third quarter. We continue to receive multiple calls or emails each week for advice. These inquiries are usually simple to respond to and do not require significant research time.