

Quarterly Report

July – September 2019

Office of Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission



July-Sept 2019

Project	Status
<p>Ethics (AB 1234) Monitoring</p>	<p>ON GOING — Office continues to contact newly appointed members and efforts have begun on 2020 renewal process. Decision was made to purchase the database which automates the notice and tracking of compliance. Efforts are being made to have system in place prior to 2020. SB90 reimbursement from State for fiscal year 17-18 confirmed to be \$22,562.</p>
<p>Newly Elected and Appointed Official and Staff training program</p>	<p>ON GOING — Follow up training sessions continue. Only three new employees remain to be trained in November. Sheriff command staff will be trained in October. DA still pending. Will be returning in 2020 with updated training materials for program improvement.</p>
<p>Campaign Disclosure Review</p>	<p>ON GOING — Audits for first semi-annual disclosure in 2019 have been completed with no notice of violations issued.</p>
<p>Education Outreach</p>	<p>ON GOING — Public outreach included internal education and the scheduling of two sessions with the Women League of Voters. After March 2020, OCEthics will return to the Commission to determine if public outreach is still recommended.</p>

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Lobbyist Portal/registration	<p>ON GOING —In-house project has been a complete success. Revenue is now being properly tracked and credited to OCEthics reducing our Net County Cost due to the Treasurer-Tax Collector’s assistance. New registrations continue and lobbyists are actively managing information as required within 10 days. Orange County currently has a confirmed active list of 77 paid lobbyists which can be viewed on http://www.ocgov.com/gov/ocethics/lobbyists.</p>
Campaign Contribution Database	<p>ON GOING —Orange County Information Technology (OCIT) has provided a working database for investigations. The same public searches can now be done on-line via the Registrar of Voters system (NetFile) due to upgrades on that system.</p>
Complaint Program	<p>ON GOING — A total of 17 complaints have been received through June 2019. This is an additional 4 complaints this quarter. Several additional complaints were received verbally but were not recorded because they were outside of jurisdiction and callers were given appropriate resources to contact.</p>

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<p>Finance and Budget</p>	<p>ON GOING —OCEthics 2019-2020 budget was approved by the Board at the requested amount. The budget amount remains the same as in previous years—\$451,656.</p> <p>*With SB90 reimbursement and lobbyist revenue OCEthics 17-18 actual NCC was \$386,676.</p>
<p>Advice Tracking System</p>	<p>ON HOLD - A more formal tracking system still needs to be implemented but has been placed on hold due to staffing issues.</p>

Summary of 2019 Complaints:

19-01: Two complaints received from same complaining party (1/11/19, 8/19/19). Complaint 1 relates to agreement between Irvine City Council and Five Point Communities re: Great Park Golf Course. Complaint 2 relates to Veterans Cemetery and FivePoint. Both complaint are not within jurisdiction – no further action taken.

19-02: Two complaints received from same complaining party (1/17/19, 2/5/19). Complaint 1 relates to Dana Point City Council while complaint 2 relates to TCA. Both complaint are not within jurisdiction. Sent email to complaining party re: TCA complaint to remind party that TCA is not within Office’s jurisdiction as indicated in 2017. No further action.

19-03: Complaint received on 1/12/19 related to identity theft, fraud and corruption by Oceanside Police Department and City Council. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-04: Complaint received on 1/28/19 alleging racist comment by County employee. No jurisdiction – no further action taken.

19-05: Complaint received on 2/4/19 alleging County vehicle parked in handicapped parking spot while at Starbucks. Provided party the Fraud hotline and online reporting instructions. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-06: Request related to public records request made to Toll Roads Agency. Received on 1/31/19. No jurisdiction – no further action taken.

19-07: Complaint received on 4/8/19 related to toxic black mold and two non-County employees mistreating complaining party. Personally spoke to complaining party and she indicated she had place to stay and needed job training. Provided address of County job training center nearest to her physical address. No jurisdiction – no further action taken.

19-08: Complaint received on 6/3/19 related to alleged misconduct by OCSD. Referred complaining party to OIR and Internal Affairs Division at OCSD. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-09: Complaint related to OCPW and improper inspection. Received formal complaint in 6/10/19. Confirmed that complaining party had appealed notice of violation via County policy and sent letter indicating that matter was outside of Office’s jurisdiction. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-10: Complaint related to elected officials not posting oaths and bonds received on 6/4/19. Complaining party had previously called and been told that the matter was not within our jurisdiction. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-11(a): Complaint related to Santa Anita racetrack received on 6/12/19. Referred complaining party to State of California due to lack of jurisdiction. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-11(b): [inadvertently numbered 19-11] Complaint related to elected officials not posting oaths and bonds. Likely related to 19-10 but came from different email address. Received on 7/25/19 and responded by email only. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-12: Complaint related to Santa Ana Animal Control Officers received on 7/21/19. Referred complaining party to the City of Santa Ana as the County does not provide enforcement. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-13: Complaint related to Orange County Fair parking. Referred complaining party to OC Fair guest experience line. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-14: Complaint related to City of Irvine mayor from previous complaining party. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.

19-15: Complaint from an OCPW employee related to work conditions and ethics violations. Complaint failed to reference action by elected official. Sent letter to clarify jurisdiction of Commission and provided complaint form inviting further provision of facts involving jurisdiction. No further communication since August 21, 2019. Matter considered closed unless allegations related to jurisdiction are provided.

19-16: Complaint related to elected officials not posting oaths and bonds. Likely related to 19-10 and 19-11(b) but came from different email address. No jurisdiction - no further action taken.