



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
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June 13, 2024

Michael L. Newman
Senior Assistant Attorney General

Rob Bonta
Attorney General

State of California, Department of Justice
300 S. Spring Street, Suite 1702
Los Angeles, CA 90013

**Re: Order Granting Exemption From Conflict of Interest Code Requirement
Our File No. E-24-002**

Dear Mr. Newman,

This is in response to your May 24, 2024, request on behalf of the Advisory Council on Improving Interactions between People with Intellectual and Development Disabilities and Law Enforcement (“Council”), a statutorily created advisory committee under the jurisdiction of your agency, for an exemption from the requirement to file a conflict of interest code pursuant to Government Code section 87300.

The Council satisfies the Fair Political Practices Commission’s (“Commission”) governing regulation criteria, and the exemption request is approved. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 18751, subd. (d)(l)). The Council has established that it has no “designated employees,” as it is an advisory body with unsalaried members. In addition, the Council will not acquire real property in the foreseeable future and has an annual operating budget of less than \$150,000.

The facts provided in the exemption request indicate that the Council does not make any final governmental decisions; compel or prevent a governmental decision either by reason of a veto that may not be overridden; or make substantive recommendations that, over an extended period of time, have been regularly approved without significant amendment or modification by another public official or governmental agency, as the Council does not possess decisionmaking authority. The Council’s statutory duties are to evaluate the peace officers’ training and identify any gaps in training specific to interactions with the intellectually and developmentally disabled community as well as individuals with mental health disorders. The Council is to make recommendations to the Legislature for improving outcomes of interactions with these individuals. Its recommendations are advisory and

nonbinding. No recommendations have been issued to date, and it will be the first set of recommendations of this kind. By statute, the Council will terminate on July 1, 2026. Therefore, the Council does not need to develop a conflict of interest code, and its members are not required to file statements of economic interest related to their positions.

Please note that interested parties may submit a request for the Commission to reconsider this approval within 30 days after the exemption approval is posted on the Commission's website. The Commission Chair will consider the request, and if, at the Chair's discretion, good cause exists for reconsideration, the Chair will schedule the matter for a hearing before the Commission. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 18751, subd. (f).)

Upon being issued, an exemption remains in effect until the basis for the grant of exemption no longer exists or the expiration of two years, whichever occurs earlier. The agency must submit an extension request if it wishes to continue the exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 18751, subd. (g).)

If you have questions on this matter, please contact me at KHarrison@FPPC.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Galena West
Executive Director

L. Karen Harrison

By: L. Karen Harrison
Senior Counsel, Legal Division

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