



# City of Camarillo

601 Carmen Drive • P.O. Box 248 • Camarillo, CA 93011-0248

Office of the City Manager  
(805) 388-5307  
FAX (805) 388-5318

February 9, 2017

Pamela Riss  
2016-2017 Ventura County Grand Jury Foreperson  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

Re: Campaign Contributions Transparency

Dear Foreperson Riss:

Attached you will find the Camarillo City Council's written response signed by Mayor Jan McDonald, as requested by the Grand Jury, to the Findings and Recommendations in subject report. Also attached is a copy of the City Council's Agenda Report on the subject for informational purposes.

If additional information is needed, please feel free to contact me at (805) 388-5307.

Sincerely,

David J. Norman  
City Manager

cc: Camarillo City Clerk

RECEIVED  
FEB 14 2017  
Ventura County  
Grand Jury

RECEIVED

**Response to Grand Jury Report Form**

FEB 14 2017

**Report Title:** Campaign Contributions Transparency

Ventura County  
Grand Jury

**Report Date:** December 1, 2016

**Response by:** Jan McDonald & Camarillo City Council    **Title:** Mayor & Council Members

The Grand Jury Report requests the City of Camarillo to provide a response to Conclusion No. 4 and Recommendation No. 2.

**CONCLUSION**

**C-04. If the format of online information was consistent, the citizens of the County would be able to easily compare records of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. The City of Simi Valley has the most user friendly format regarding monetary contributions online.**

Response to C-04: The City of Camarillo disagrees with this finding as the reports provided online do not provide full disclosure because information is redacted from online reports that would otherwise be made available to the public as required by the Fair Political Practices Commission.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**R-02. The Grand Jury recommends that all cities within the County (Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, and Ventura) direct staff to establish a direct link on their website homepage for public online access to records of all monetary contributions made to their candidates for public office.**

Response to R-02: The City will establish a webpage (searchable) on the City's website which will provide general information to the public about campaign reporting and explain how to obtain access to unredacted copies of filings through the City Clerk's Office (i.e. either in-person or via email).

Date: February 8, 2017

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Jan McDonald*  
Jan McDonald, Mayor  
City of Camarillo

Number of pages attached: 0



# City of Camarillo

---

## AGENDA REPORT

Date: February 8, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

From: Dave Norman, City Manager *DN*

Submitted by: Jeffrie Madland, City Clerk

Subject: **Response to Grand Jury Report on Campaign Contributions Transparency**

---

### SUMMARY

On December 1, 2016, the Ventura County Grand Jury submitted a letter to the City Council enclosing a copy of its Final Report for 2016-2017 on Campaign Contributions Transparency and requesting response.

### DISCUSSION

#### Grand Jury Report

The 2016-2017 Ventura County Grand Jury chose to investigate whether the County of Ventura and the 10 cities within the County provided transparency by establishing user-friendly online access to reports of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. The Report is attached.

The Report contains the following Conclusion No. 2 and Recommendation No. 2 which reference the City:

**C-02.** The Cities of Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme and Santa Paula provide access to records of monetary contributions made to their candidates of public office only through their City Clerk's Office.

**R-02.** The Grand Jury recommends that all cities within the County (Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, and Ventura) direct staff to establish a direct link on their website homepage for public online access to records of all monetary contributions made to their candidates for public office.

The Report requests that the City of Camarillo respond to C-04 (Conclusion No. 4 cited below) and R-02 (Recommendation No. 2 cited above).

### **City of Camarillo**

The City of Camarillo maintains a binder at the City Clerk's counter of all elected official and candidate committee filings for the past two years. Additionally, we scan all filings upon receipt so that we can promptly respond to requests for information. Since 2012, we have received 15 requests (in election years only) via email for campaign filings, which are typically responded to immediately.

It is recommended that a webpage (searchable) be added to the City's website which will provide general information to the public about campaign reporting and explain how to obtain access to unredacted copies of filings through the City Clerk's Office (i.e. either in-person or via email).

The City's draft response is attached for your review. Pursuant to Penal Code Section 933(c), if the Mayor has any comments regarding the Report in addition to the comments set forth in the proposed Response, then the Mayor may request those comments be included in the proposed Response.

### **BUDGET IMPACT**

None. This item does not require an expenditure of funds. Approval of the Response to the Grand Jury Report has no budget impact to the City.

### **SUGGESTED ACTION**

A motion to authorize the Mayor to execute the Response to the Final Report on Campaign Contributions Transparency.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 2016-2017 Grand Jury Report on Campaign Contributions Transparency
- Email from the FPCC
- City of Simi Valley webpage
- Sample Redacted Filing from Simi Valley webpage
- Response to Grand Jury Report

Finance Review: GW

## **Campaign Contributions Transparency**

### **Summary**

The 2016-2017 Ventura County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) received a complaint regarding public access to reports of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. The Grand Jury investigated whether the County of Ventura (County) and the 10 cities within the County provided transparency by establishing user-friendly online access to such reports.

The California Political Reform Act (Act) is an initiative statute passed by voters in 1974. The Fair Political Practice Commission, established by the Act, requires that all local government agencies adopt procedures for reporting monetary contributions. The Act also requires that the public have access to all records of these contributions in an accurate, timely, and transparent manner.

The Grand Jury reviewed the California statutes and regulations governing monetary contributions. The Grand Jury also examined the official websites of the County and the 10 Cities within the County. In addition, the Grand Jury interviewed government officials.

The Grand Jury concluded that information concerning monetary contributions to candidates for public office is available for the County and the 10 cities within the County. However, the Grand Jury found that there was a wide variation in accessibility to this information.

The Grand Jury recommends that the Board of Supervisors and City Councils of the 10 cities establish a direct link on their websites' home page for easy public access to information concerning all monetary contributions to candidates for public office.

### **Background**

The Grand Jury received a public complaint regarding access to records of monetary contributions received by candidates for public office in Ventura County and the cities within Ventura County.

The California Political Reform Act of 1974, GC §87100 et seq., (the Act), as amended, requires all local government agencies, including elected members of city councils and county boards of supervisors, to report monetary contributions and make the information accessible to the public.

The Act created the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) which has established procedures for reporting monetary contributions and methods for sharing this information.

*disclosures.* The information is also available through the City Clerk's Office. (Ref-06)

- FA-07.** The City of Port Hueneme's website does not provide access to records of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. The information is available through the City Clerk's Office. (Ref-07)
- FA-08.** The City of Santa Paula's website does not provide access to records of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. The information is available through the City Clerk's Office. (Ref-08)
- FA-09.** The City of Simi Valley's website provides access to records of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. From the home page: <http://www.simivalley.org> Click >> *Departments* >> *City Council* >> *City Council Campaign Disclosures*. The information is also available through the City Clerk's Office. (Ref-09)
- FA-10.** The City of Thousand Oak's website provides access to records of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. From the home page: <http://www.toaks.org> Click >> *Departments* >> *City Clerk* >> *Election Disclosures* >> *Council Member*. The information is also available through the City Clerk's Office. (Ref-10)
- FA-11.** The City of San Buenaventura (Ventura) provides access to records of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. From the home page: <http://www.cityofventura.net> Click >> *Departments* >> *City Manager* >> *City Clerk* >> *Campaign Disclosures Statements* >> (*Office holder by name*). The information is also available through the City Clerk's Office. (Ref-11)

## **Conclusions**

- C-01.** The County's website only provides access to transactions from electronically filed documents. However, the website is overly complicated, not intuitive, and may require the assistance of county staff in its navigation. Access to records of non-electronically filed monetary contributions requires a visit to the Registrar of Voters Office. (FA-01)
- C-02.** The Cities of Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme and Santa Paula provide access to records of monetary contributions made to their candidates for public office only through their City Clerk's Office. (FA-02, FA-03, FA-04, FA-05, FA-07, FA-08)
- C-03.** The Cities of Oxnard, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks and Ventura websites provide access to records of monetary contributions made to their candidates for public office through several steps. (FA-06, FA-09, FA-10, FA-11)
- C-04.** If the format of online information was consistent, the citizens of the County would be able to easily compare records of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. The City of Simi Valley has the most user friendly format regarding monetary contributions online. (FA-09)

- Click >> Public Access Portal
- Fill out information for candidate on Search Page, Click >> Search for Summary Page
- For further itemized information, Clear the Summary Page, then Click >> Advanced Search
- Fill out information data form, using only last name of official and specifying a date and dollar range to search
- Click >> Transactions Search
- Select a specific transaction, Click >> Search

**Ref-02.** <http://www.cityofCamarillo.org> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-03.** <http://www.Filmore.ca.com> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-04.** <http://www.cityofMoorpark.gov> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-05.** <http://www.Ojaicity.org> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-06.** <http://www.Oxnard.org> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-07.** <http://www.ciPort/Hueneme.ca.usa> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-08.** <http://www.ciSanta/Paula.ca.usa> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-09.** <http://www.simivalley.org> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-10.** <http://www.toaks.org> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Ref-11.** <http://www.cityofventura.net> (accessed October 5, 2016)

**Jeffrie Madland**

---

**From:** Trish Mayer <TMayer@fppc.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2016 12:33 PM  
**To:** Jeffrie Madland  
**Subject:** Re: Campaign Statements

Okay, so the same rules apply as in the past...you're not required to post but if you do, you may redact as much or as little as you want so long as you provide a totally unredacted copy to anyone who asks.

Happy holidays to you!

Trish

---

**From:** Jeffrie Madland <[jmadland@cityofcamarillo.org](mailto:jmadland@cityofcamarillo.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 5, 2016 11:39:33 AM  
**To:** Trish Mayer  
**Subject:** Campaign Statements

Trish –

What is the FPPC's current position on posting campaign statements to the website? I attended an FPPC training many years ago and the position at that time was that the FPPC was not telling us to post them so the cities that were posting them had to address the redaction issues on their own. Is that still the case or is the FPPC leaning toward making them available on the city websites?

**Jeffrie Madland**  
City Clerk, City of Camarillo

601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, California 93010

(805)388-5315

[www.cityofcamarillo.org](http://www.cityofcamarillo.org)



**Recipient Committee  
Campaign Statement  
Cover Page**

(Government Code Sections 84200-84216.5)

Type or print in ink.

COVER PAGE

Date Stamp	CALIFORNIA 2001/02 FORM	<b>460</b>
RECEIVED CITY OF SIMI VALLEY	Page <u>1</u> of <u>32</u>	
2012 JUL 24 PM 1:54	For Official Use Only	
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK		

Statement covers period from <u>January 1, 2012</u> through <u>June 30, 2012</u>	Date of election if applicable: (Month, Day, Year) <u>November 6, 2012</u>
--	--

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

**1. Type of Recipient Committee:** All Committees - Complete Parts 1, 2, 3, and 4.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officeholder, Candidate Controlled Committee<br><input type="checkbox"/> State Candidate Election Committee<br><input type="checkbox"/> Recall<br><small>(Also Complete Part 5)</small> | <input type="checkbox"/> Ballot Measure Committee<br><input type="checkbox"/> Primarily Formed<br><input type="checkbox"/> Controlled<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sponsored<br><small>(Also Complete Part 6)</small> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Purpose Committee<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sponsored<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small Contributor Committee<br><input type="checkbox"/> Political Party/Central Committee              | <input type="checkbox"/> Primarily Formed Candidate/<br>Officeholder Committee<br><small>(Also Complete Part 7)</small>  |

**2. Type of Statement:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preelection Statement            | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly Statement                                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semi-annual Statement | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Odd-Year Report                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Termination Statement            | <input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Preelection<br>Statement - Attach Form 495 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment (Explain below)        |  |

**3. Committee Information**

I.D. NUMBER  
1325587

COMMITTEE NAME (OR CANDIDATE'S NAME IF NO COMMITTEE)

People for Bob Huber-Mayor 2012

STREET ADDRESS (NO P.O. BOX)

CITY STATE ZIP CODE AREA CODE/PHONE

MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT) NO. AND STREET OR P.O. BOX

CITY STATE ZIP CODE AREA CODE/PHONE

OPTIONAL: FAX / E-MAIL ADDRESS

**Treasurer(s)**

NAME OF TREASURER

Jim King

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP CODE AREA CODE/PHONE

NAME OF ASSISTANT TREASURER, IF ANY

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP CODE AREA CODE/PHONE

OPTIONAL: FAX / E-MAIL ADDRESS

**4. Verification**

I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing and reviewing this statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and in the attached schedules is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on 7/24/12 Date

Executed on 7/24/12 Date

Executed on \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Executed on \_\_\_\_\_ Date

By [Signature] Signature of Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer

By [Signature] Signature of Controlling Officeholder, Candidate, State Measure Proponent or Responsible Officer of Sponsor

By \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Controlling Officeholder, Candidate, State Measure Proponent

By \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Controlling Officeholder, Candidate, State Measure Proponent

FPPC Form 400 (June/01)  
FPPC Toll-Free Helpline: 888/ASK-FPPC  
State of California

**SAMPLE**

highlight added

CC X A 13

## Response to Grand Jury Report Form

**Report Title:** Campaign Contributions Transparency

**Report Date:** December 1, 2016

**Response by:** Jan McDonald & Camarillo City Council    **Title:** Mayor & Council Members

The Grand Jury Report requests the City of Camarillo to provide a response to Conclusion No. 4 and Recommendation No. 2.

### CONCLUSION

**C-04. If the format of online information was consistent, the citizens of the County would be able to easily compare records of monetary contributions made to candidates for public office. The City of Simi Valley has the most user friendly format regarding monetary contributions online.**

Response to C-04: The City of Camarillo disagrees with this finding as the reports provided online do not provide full disclosure because information is redacted from online reports that would otherwise be made available to the public as required by the Fair Political Practices Commission.

### RECOMMENDATION

**R-02. The Grand Jury recommends that all cities within the County (Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, and Ventura) direct staff to establish a direct link on their website homepage for public online access to records of all monetary contributions made to their candidates for public office.**

Response to R-02: It is recommended that a webpage (searchable) be added to the City's website which will provide general information to the public about campaign reporting and explain how to obtain access to unredacted copies of filings through the City Clerk's Office (i.e. either in-person or via email).

Date: February 8, 2017

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan McDonald, Mayor  
City of Camarillo

Number of pages attached: 0