

NEWS FROM THE OAKLAND ETHICS COMMISSION

CITY OF OAKLAND Public Ethics Commission

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www.oaklandnet.com/pec



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Oakland Public Ethics Commission Seeks Commissioner for 2013-16 Term

The City of Oakland Public Ethics Commission is accepting applications from Oakland residents interested in serving as a Commissioner on its seven-member board. The Commission will appoint a new member for a three-year term to begin in January 2013.

The Public Ethics Commission oversees compliance with Oakland's Campaign Reform Act, Conflict of Interest Code, Code of Ethics, Sunshine Ordinance, Limited Public Financing Act, Lobbyist Registration Act and False Endorsement in Campaign Literature Act. The Commission conducts investigations, administers compliance programs, educates citizens and City staff on ethics-related issues, and works with City staff to ensure policies are in place and are being followed. Commissioners participate in regular monthly public meetings and may also perform additional subcommittee work throughout the year. The candidate who fills the Commission-appointed position beginning in January 2013 will be joined by a mayoral appointee yet to be determined for the same term period.

The new Commissioners will have the opportunity to help shape the future of the Commission, which experienced significant budget cuts and the loss of its only two staff in June 2011. This year, the Commission went from dormant status with no staff, to hiring a full-time director in April and adding two part-time workers in July. Staff and Commissioners recently engaged in strategic planning, established Commission priorities, and have taken steps toward streamlining, automating, and publicizing its activities.

“The Public Ethics Commission is poised to provide tremendous value to the City of Oakland going forward as the Commission rebuilds and prioritizes its work to focus on the most important and impactful issues within its reach,” said Chairman Richard Unger, who is termed out this year. “A new Commissioner will be part of this transformation.”

Applications for the Public Ethics Commission position can be accessed at www.oaklandnet.com/pec and are due to the Commission by November 16, 2012.

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