



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
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May 30, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AT Alec.Watts@dfeh.ca.gov Jamie.Crook@dfeh.ca.gov

Jamie Crook
Chief Counsel
California Civil Rights Department

Alec Watts
Assistant Deputy Director of Research and Strategic Initiatives
California Civil Rights Department

**Re: Order Granting Exemption from Conflict of Interest Code Requirement
Our File No. E-23-001**

Dear Ms. Crook and Mr. Watts:

This is in response to your April 28, 2023, request on behalf of the State of Hate Commission (“Hate Commission”), a statutorily created advisory committee housed with your agency, for an exemption from the requirement to file a Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to Government Code section 87300.

The Hate Commission satisfies the criteria in the Fair Political Practices Commission's (“Commission”) governing regulation and the exemption request is approved. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 18751, subd. (d)(1).) The Hate Commission has established that it has no “designated employees,” as it is an advisory body with unsalaried members. In addition, the Hate Commission will not acquire real property in the foreseeable future, has an annual operating budget of less than \$150,000 in that it has no budget of its own, and has no decisionmaking authority. The Hate Commission’s sole purpose is to study hate in California, develop anti-hate resources, and make recommendations for further action in its annual report to the Governor and Legislature until it dissolves on January 1, 2027. It has no history of making past recommendations that have been regularly accepted or adopted. Therefore, the Hate Commission need not 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 that this approval be reconsidered by the Commission within 30 days after the exemption approval is posted to the Commission’s website. The Commission Chair will consider the request and if, in 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. If the agency wishes to continue the exemption, it must submit an extension request. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 18751, subd. (g).)

If you have questions on this matter, please contact me at (916) 322-5660.

Sincerely,

Galena West
Executive Director

L. Karen Harrison

By: L. Karen Harrison
Senior Counsel, Legal Division

LKH:aja