

Downey Municipal Code

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2943. CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION LIMITATIONS

(a) **Declaration of Candidacy.** No person may make, and no candidate or the controlled committee of that candidate, may solicit, accept or receive any campaign contribution until an FPPC Form 501, Candidate Intention Statement, has been filed pursuant to Section 18520 of Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations and Government Code Section 85200.

(b) **Contribution Limits.**

(1) **Contribution Limits for Districts 1 Through 4.**

(i) For City Council elections in Districts 1 through 4, candidates or their controlled committees may accept contributions of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) from any single person in any single election.

(2) **Contribution Limits for District 5.**

(i) For City Council elections in District 5, candidates or their controlled committees may accept contributions of up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) from any single person in any single election.

(3) The contribution limits set forth in this section do not apply to any contribution received by a candidate or his or her controlled committee if such contribution shall be used solely to retire campaign debt existing on or before the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter. If the contributions received are used, in whole or in part, to seek nomination for or election to the Downey City Council, the contribution limits established in this section shall apply.

(c) **Return of Contributions.** Any amount in excess of the applicable contribution limit received from any single person shall be returned to the person making the contribution within fifteen (15) business days of the candidate or candidate's controlled committee's receipt of the excess contribution. The excess contribution and the date of its return shall be reported on a form provided by the City Clerk and filed within fifteen (15) business days of its return to the donor, or no later than the applicable voting day, whichever is earlier.

(d) **Family Contributions.** Contributions by a husband and wife shall be treated as contributions by separate persons and shall not be aggregated. Contributions by children under eighteen (18) years of age are presumed to be a contribution from the parent or guardian of the child.

(e) **Personal Funds.** The limitations of this section shall not apply to contributions of a candidate's personal and community property funds to his or her controlled campaign committee on behalf of his or her own candidacy, but

shall apply to contributions from the candidate's spouse or registered domestic partner. (Added by Ord. 1291, adopted 9-13-11; amended by Ord. 20-1421, adopted 1-28-20)

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