

# LOBBYING DISCLOSURE FORM

Pursuant to Government Code §56300(c), LAFCO adopted lobbying disclosure and reporting requirements for persons who attempt to influence the Commission or staff in regard to a pending LAFCO decision. Applicants for LAFCO proceedings must complete this form. More information and definition of terms is included.

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### POLICY AND DEFINITIONS

# Definition of "lobbyist"

A lobbyist is an individual or entity who is compensated and who communicates directly with regular or alternate LAFCO commissioners, and/or the Executive Officer to influence, on behalf of his client or employer, the Commission's or the Executive Officer's action. Communication includes ex parte communications as well as presentations at Commission meetings. This definition does not include:

- a. Any elected public official acting in his official capacity, or any employee of governmental agency acting in the scope of his/her employment.
- b. Any employee of a newspaper or other periodical of general circulation, or radio or television station, acting within the scope of their employment.

## Filing Schedule

Any person or entity meeting this definition and who is lobbying the Commission or Executive Officer in regard to an application before LAFCO must file a declaration prior to the hearing on the LAFCO application or at the time of the hearing if that is the initial contact. In addition to submitting a declaration, any lobbyist speaking at the LAFCO hearing must so identify themselves as lobbyists and identify on the record the name of the person or entity making payment to them.

Additionally every applicant shall file a declaration under penalty of perjury listing all lobbyists that they have hired to influence the action taken by LAFCO on their application. This affidavit is due at the time of application filing and is to be updated, if necessary, one week prior to the hearing date of the application.

The declaration shall be made on a form provided by LAFCO and shall include the name of the lobbyist, the name of the application of interest and the name of the person or entity paying the lobbyist in regard to the application. The declaration shall be signed under penalty of perjury.

## Filing Office

Declarations shall be submitted to the LAFCO Executive Officer and posted on the web site. The declarations shall become part of the LAFCO application file.

#### **Enforcement**

Failure of an applicant or a lobbyist to file the declaration, or to identify oneself as a lobbyist prior to speaking on a matter, shall result in the inability of the Commission to take action on the application. In addition, failure to file the declaration or the filing of an erroneous declaration shall result in a penalty of \$500.00, said assessment to be deposited in the LAFCO budget.

### **Effective Date**

These policies shall apply to all LAFCO applications submitted for filing after April 11, 2001.