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News Clerks Should Know:

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2008/2009 Campaign Changes

Following are highlights of recent changes to the Political Reform Act and FPPC regulations. To read about more changes visit www.fppc.ca.gov and visit the [What's New](#) column on the right side of the home page:

Candidate Controlled Committees. The name for all state and local committees established for an election held after January 1, 2009, must include the candidate's name, office sought and year of the election. This is required even if the committee was formed before the amendment to Regulation 18402 became effective. The district number or name of the city or county is not required. Examples of committee names are "Jones for Council 2010" and "Smith for Assembly 2010". (See FPPC Regulation 18402.)

Primarily Formed and General Purpose Committee Definitions. A primarily formed committee is classified as one that makes more than 70% of its contributions or expenditures on a specific candidate or measure, and a general purpose committee as a city, county, or state committee that makes more than 50% of its contributions or expenditures on candidates or measures to be voted on in that jurisdiction. An existing committee is required to review its status quarterly and new committees formed within six months of an election in connection with which the committee makes contributions or expenditures must review at the end of each month. The Statement of Organization (Form 410) must be amended if the committee's status changes. Reporting requirements will likely change. (See FPPC Regulation 18247.5.)

Principal Officer Definition and Reporting Requirements. Defines "principal officer" as the individual primarily responsible for approving a committee's political activity and requires each non-candidate controlled committee to disclose the identity of its principal officers on the Statement of Organization (Form 410). (See FPPC Regulations 18402.1 and 18427.)

Reporting an Expenditure of Campaign Funds for a Gift, a Meal, or Travel. Requires a candidate controlled committee to describe the political, legislative, or governmental purpose and other detailed information when reporting expenditures for gifts, meals, or travel and requires maintenance of specified records. (See FPPC Regulations 18401 and 18421.7 and related fact sheet dated 6/08.)

Political Fundraiser Tickets. Effective October 4, 2008, a single ticket or other admission privilege provided to a public official, for his or her own use, to a political fundraising event held in California has no value. The ticket may only be received from the committee holding the fundraiser. Additional tickets, or

tickets received from a source other than the committee holding the fundraising event, are considered gifts to the official. (See FPPC Regulation 18946.4.)