

REPORT ON INFORMATION COLLECTED CONCERNING APPLICANT

Under section 60835 of title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, the Bureau of State Audits is responsible for collecting information concerning applicants for the Citizens Redistricting Commission that is needed by the Applicant Review Panel to perform its responsibilities. This is a report by Bureau staff in compliance with that responsibility.

Name of Applicant: Jeanne E. Raya

Information: Research by Bureau staff, confirmed in a conversation with Applicant, revealed the dates of some of Applicants activities as disclosed on her supplemental application. Applicant served as President of the La Raza Lawyers Association from 1977 to sometime in the 1980's. She served on the Ramona Convent Secondary School Board of Directors from 1991 to 2002. She was appointed to the Department of Insurance Curriculum Board in 1992 by then-Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi. Applicant stated that she served "a couple of years." This board is an advisory board dealing with the licensing of insurance brokers and standards for conduct.

In the "Activities" section of her supplemental application, Applicant discussed serving on the Board of Directors, and serving as Vice-Chair, of the San Gabriel Community Foundation. According to its website, the Foundation "is a collaborative effort with the California Community Foundation to increase community resources in the fields of youth, families, and community development, and the Foundation's partners include the City of San Gabriel, San Gabriel Unified School District, San Gabriel Valley Medical Center, and the Church of Our Savior. Applicant explained to staff that the partner organizations were the original funding organizations. Applicant has been the Vice-Chair of the Foundation from 2001 to the present. The Foundation brings in funds to give to nonprofit agencies. The Foundation works with California Community Foundation, which handles the money. San Gabriel Community Foundation decides which organizations receive the grants. The grants support programs promoting health education, wellness, the delivery of health services, scholarships for graduating high school seniors, cultural arts, the environment, historic preservation, and education.

Also in the "Activities" section of her supplemental application, Applicant stated that she was a poll monitor in Nevada during the 2008 Presidential Election and supported judicial candidates, school board candidates, and school bonds. When asked about these activities by staff, Applicant responded that she spent Election Day in November 2008 monitoring polls for the Obama presidential campaign. Applicant stated she supported candidates and school bonds with contributions. Staff noted that such contributions were not listed in the "Financial Contributions" section of her supplemental application. Applicant responded that these contributions were below \$250 and/or outside the 2-year reporting period.

Bureau staff contacted Harry Baldwin, the author of one of Applicant's letters of recommendation, to confirm the information provided in the letter and receive any additional information that may be relevant. Mr. Baldwin stated that he has known Applicant for 20 years, including working with her closely for ten years with the Chamber of Commerce and the San Gabriel Community Foundation. When asked why he thinks he was selected by Applicant to write a letter of recommendation for her, Mr. Baldwin stated that he knows a lot of people as a result of serving on the San Gabriel City Council for 17 years and serving as the Mayor of San Gabriel for four terms. He and Applicant both worked in the insurance industry. When asked by staff to provide an example of Applicant making an impartial, unbiased decision, Mr. Baldwin stated that Applicant always makes decisions without agenda. He said the Community Foundation awards grants and Applicant makes her decisions based on which organizations are most deserving. Mr. Baldwin added that Applicant has done a "tremendous job" in the community and she "doesn't self-promote" or do her community service for the "glory." She does what is best for the community.

Recommendation: None.

Name and title of person submitting response: Steven Benito Russo, Chief of Investigations

Report Date: September 16, 2010
