



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PRESS RELEASE

Ethics Commission

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**ETHICS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT
WITH LOBBYIST SCOTT MALONI
CONCERNING VIOLATIONS OF LOBBYING LAWS**

Stacey Fulhorst, Executive Director of the City of San Diego Ethics Commission, announced today the Commission's approval of a stipulated settlement agreement with Scott Maloni. Maloni, a registered lobbyist, has agreed to pay a fine of \$950 for failing to disclose two clients on his quarterly disclosure reports.

Ms. Fulhorst commented that, "Mr. Maloni has a history of diligently registering as a lobbyist and disclosing his lobbying activities in quarterly reports. The violations in this matter stemmed from his misunderstanding regarding the reporting requirements." In particular, Ms. Fulhorst explained that Mr. Maloni mistakenly believed he only had to report lobbying activities on behalf of a client if the client had paid him the threshold level of compensation during the reporting period. The threshold level of compensation (currently \$2,625 in a calendar quarter) is used to determine whether an individual must register as a lobbyist. Once an individual has received the threshold compensation from one or more clients for lobbying and related activities, the individual must register as a lobbyist and subsequently must disclose all clients and all lobbying activities – regardless of the associated compensation – on quarterly reports.

According to the Commission Chair, Dorothy Leonard, the Commission felt that the amount of the fine was appropriate in light of the underlying circumstances. “Although these violations arise from a misunderstanding, Mr. Maloni is an experienced lobbyist who should be fully versed in the City’s lobbying laws.”

Ethics Commission fines are paid to the City of San Diego’s General Fund. The stipulated settlements approved by the Commission resolve all factual and legal issues without the necessity of holding an administrative hearing.

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