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## Weekly Lobbying Articles

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Voice of OC  
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### Anaheim's Lobbyist Sunshine Ordinance Will Be Largely Self-Enforced

<https://voiceofoc.org/2017/09/anaheims-lobbyist-sunshine-ordinance-will-be-largely-self-enforced/>

New restrictions on lobbyists now are in effect in Anaheim, although enforcement of the law – known as the sunshine ordinance – will be largely self-reported.

“We’re not going to go out and start looking [for violations],” said city spokesman Mike Lyster. “But just the fact that this city has this ordinance in the books says a lot. It sets a high expectation.”

The city attorney will not be proactively questioning whether certain city employees and contractors are in compliance with the law, said Lyster. Instead, council members or city commissioners can request the city clerk to determine whether someone is a lobbyist and needs to register.

So far, only one lobbyist, George Urch on behalf of the Honda Center, has filed a registration form. Lobbyists are required to register within 15 days after any lobbying activity. The first quarterly report isn’t due until January 2018.

The sunshine ordinance, passed by the City Council in July, went into effect last week and includes a “revolving door” ban barring elected officials and employees from lobbying the city for two years after they leave their jobs, the toughest restriction on government lobbying in Orange County.

It also prohibits the city from hiring people who simultaneously work at lobbying firms, and requires lobbyists – defined as people paid at least \$500 to influence legislation or administrative actions – to register with the city and file quarterly reports disclosing their clients and campaign contributions made to council members.

At a city council meeting in July, Councilman Steve Faessel questioned whether the ordinance’s prohibition on hiring employees of lobbying firms, proposed by Councilman Jose Moreno, was targeting part-time aides employed by himself and Councilwomen Kris Murray and Lucille Kring.

Faessel’s former aide, Crystal Norman, who worked for the public affairs firm FSB Core Strategies, voluntarily resigned three weeks ago, although Faessel said it was because she received an offer for a full-time position at the firm, not because of the sunshine ordinance.

Jeff Flint, the company’s CEO, is a registered lobbyist with the county of Orange and has represented the Anaheim Chamber of Commerce.

“Regardless of the sunshine ordinance and what my feelings happened to be about it, I didn’t think that she would have been affected by it,” Faessel said of Norman. “She personally is not a lobbyist, and whether the firm she was working for was considered a lobbyist has yet to be determined.”

Councilwoman Denise Barnes' aide, Matthew Holder, is also a registered lobbyist with the county, although he says the county registry is out of date and he no longer lobbies the county.

Other council members have well-connected part-time aides who, while not registered lobbyists, work on behalf of public agencies and private companies.

Murray's aides – Arianna Barrios and Justin Glover — come from the public relations firm Communications LAB, which also works as a consultant for her political campaign. The company's clients include Poseidon Water, The Orange County Transportation Authority, and Southern California Edison, according to an economic disclosure form for Barrios filed in March 2017.

Kring's aide, Steve Lodge, was a public affairs consultant for Hill International, a city construction contractor, before he became a part-time council aide. Lodge has since severed ties with the company.

Aides for Councilmen Jose Moreno and James Vanderbilt previously also worked or volunteered for their campaigns. There's no prohibition in the sunshine ordinance on council members hiring campaign staff, although state law prohibits public employees from doing political work while on the clock.

Mayor Tom Tait is the only member of the council with a full-time employee, his Chief of Staff Mishal Montgomery.

"Where we're at now is each council member does believe all their aides comply," said Lyster. "If there were to be any additional inquiry, we would leave it to a council member to bring it up and go through that process."

Lyster said if members of the public want to report a violation of the sunshine ordinance, they would need to bring the issue to the attention of a council member, city commissioner or hearing officer.

**Las Vegas Sun  
September 16, 2017**

### **Schwartz says he won't take money from lobbyists, big donors in run for governor**

<https://lasvegassun.com/news/2017/sep/16/gop-gubernatorial-candidate-schwartz-vows-not-to-t/>

Nevada Treasurer Dan Schwartz, a Republican candidate for governor, said Thursday he will not take any campaign contributions from lobbyists and major donors because they have damaged state government by funding a "pay-to-play" mentality in Carson City.

"We've got to take down the 'For Sale' sign in Carson City, and maybe I'm the person to do that," he said on "Nevada Newsmakers."

Those who make large campaign contributions to state elected officials have too much influence in government, Schwartz said.

"The pay-to-play in this state is just out of control, and it is funded by lobbyists and it is funded by big donors," Schwartz said. "Ultimately, we elect these people, and the pay-to-play people get what they want from the people we elect."

Schwartz has been critical of his anticipated Republican opponent for governor, Attorney General Adam Laxalt, for his large campaign contributions from Las Vegas Sands chief Sheldon Adelson.

He also cited the “pay-for-play mentality” in the Raiders stadium deal, pay-day loan industry regulations and the failed Faraday Future electric car plant.

“Everybody has their hand in the trough, and people get paid to influence that,” Schwartz said.

Schwartz, who was elected state treasurer in 2014, estimated he'll need \$1 million for a primary election campaign and another \$2 million for a general election campaign.

“I'm willing to kick in about \$500,000 on the primary, so I've got to raise about \$500,000,” he said. “And once we, hopefully, get through that, we'll see in the general.”

Schwartz's office has been a major proponent of the Education Savings Account program, which would have given parents about \$6,000 a year to send children to private or parochial schools.

The bill passed the Legislature in 2015, when the GOP held the majority in both houses. It was later struck down by the state Supreme Court over its funding mechanism. Republicans tried to bring the bill back in 2017, but the Democrats, who had seized control of both houses, blocked it.

If he is elected governor, Schwartz said he will not sign any bills until he has the ESA bill on his desk. He acknowledged that could lead to a standoff if Democrats continue to hold the majorities in both houses again in 2019.

“If elected, in my State of the State address, I will apologize to the people of Nevada for perhaps having a Legislature that is being paid to do nothing.”