



Los Angeles City Ethics Commission

May 5, 2011

The Honorable City Council  
c/o June Lagmay, City Clerk  
200 North Spring Street  
City Hall – 3rd Floor  
Los Angeles CA 90012

**Re: Council File Number 11-0482  
Appointment of Elise Buik to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority**

***FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION***

Dear Councilmembers:

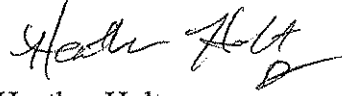
On March 24, 2011, the Mayor transmitted to the City Clerk a letter indicating his appointment of Ms. Elise Buik to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). The Ethics Commission received Ms. Buik's pre-confirmation statement of economic interests (SEI) on April 29, 2011, and this letter is provided for your consideration as part of the confirmation process. A copy of this letter is also being provided to Ms. Buik to help her avoid potential conflicts of interests that may arise in the course of her tenure as a member of the LAHSA.

Ms. Buik reports on her SEI income for her position as President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way, Inc. If a matter involving any of these interests comes before the LAHSA, Ms. Buik should, before acting, seek the advice of the attorney who advises the authority regarding whether she should disqualify herself. We are unable to assess if or how frequently Ms. Buik would be in a position of having to recuse herself.

Interests disclosed on an SEI are not the only interests that can give rise to a conflict of interests. For example, state law may require recusal by a board or commission member due to certain business activities of the clients of that member's employer. If a matter raises potential conflict of interests issues, we encourage Ms. Buik to seek the advice of the attorney who advises the LAHSA before acting.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Ethics Program Manager Shannon Prior at (213) 978-1960.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Holt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Heather Holt  
Executive Director

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa  
Ms. Elise Buik