



Los Angeles City Ethics Commission

September 10, 2013

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

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

FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Dear Councilmembers:

On August 14, 2013, the Mayor transmitted to the City Clerk a letter indicating his reappointment 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 September 10, 2013, 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 this interest comes before 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 LAHSA before acting.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (213) 978-1960.

Sincerely,

Shannon Prior
Ethics Program Manager

cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Ms. Elise Buik