



Los Angeles City Ethics Commission

September 23, 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 13-1119
Appointment of Ray Bidenost to the
Board of the Los Angeles Convention Center**

FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Dear Councilmembers:

On August 23, 2013, the Mayor transmitted to the City Clerk a letter indicating his appointment of Mr. Ray Bidenost to the Board of the Los Angeles Convention Center. The Ethics Commission received Mr. Bidenost's pre-confirmation statement of economic interests (SEI) on September 17, 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 Mr. Bidenost to help him avoid potential conflicts of interests that may arise in the course of his tenure as a member of the Board of the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Mr. Bidenost reports on his SEI an ownership interest in Chef Robert Catering, Inc., where he is President. He also reports that Chef Robert Catering, Inc. has received income from clients and rental income from tenants of \$10,000 or more, which are listed on the attachments. In addition, he discloses that he has received loan repayments from the Motion Picture and Television Mobile Catering Association. If a matter involving any of these interests comes before the Board of the Los Angeles Convention Center, Mr. Bidenost should, before acting, seek the advice of the City Attorney regarding whether he should disqualify himself. We are unable to assess if or how frequently Mr. Bidenost would be in a position of having to recuse himself.

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. Additionally, recusal may be required under City Charter § 222, which states that the City Attorney may provide a written opinion concerning the obligation of a City official to refrain from acting on a matter when it may violate state law or when action may not be in the public interest.

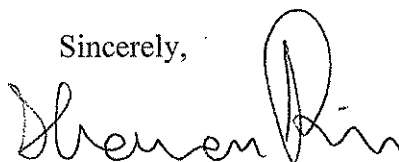
If a matter raises a potential conflict of interests, we encourage Mr. Bidenost to seek the advice of the City Attorney before acting. If Mr. Bidenost is required to disqualify himself from acting on a matter, Los Angeles Municipal Code § 49.5.6(J) and Executive Directive 2005-1 require him to file a Recusal Notification Form (CEC Form 51) with the Ethics Commission and the Mayor's office. If a board or commission member is disqualified from acting on three or

more agenda items in a year because of a conflict caused by the same interest, the Ethics Commission is required by City Charter § 707 to review the conflict. If the Ethics Commission determines that the member has a significant and continuing conflict of interests, it must order divestment of the interest that is causing the conflict.

In addition to filing SEIs, nominees also file Residence Verification Forms. We have received a completed form from Mr. Bidenost, which states that he is registered to vote in the City.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Prior". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "S" and "P".

Shannon Prior
Ethics Program Manager

Attachments

cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Mr. Ray Bidenost

Attachment A

Ray Bidenost

Pre-confirmation Form 700

September 2013

Schedule A-2

Client Sources of Income of \$10,000 or more to Chef Robert Catering, Inc.

Alexander	Saving Mr. Banks
Amped up & Electrolight	Teen Wolf
Anonymous Content	Ten
Nury Martinez Community Event	The Advocates
Chef	The Mentalist
Department of Cultural Affairs	The Neighbors – Season 1 and 2
Direct Tire	The New Normal
Doubletree Commerce	There's Always Woodstock
E74	Townies
Endless Love	Untitled Bilsing-Graham/Kreamer Pilot
House of Cards Season 1 and 2	Vatican Tapes
Imagined	Walk of Shame
Independent Media	Wayno's Catering
Individual Food Service	WBTV – Deer Shoot
Intelligence	Westside
Leftovers	You're No You
Maestranza Productions, Inc.	
Major Crimes	
Mixology	
Portal A	
Pretty Bird	
Project Imagination	
R.I.P.D.	
Real Husbands of Hollywood	
Red 2	
Rizzoli & Isles	
Runner Runner	

Attachment B

Ray Bidenost

Pre-confirmation Form 700

September 2013

Schedule A-2

Sources of Rental Income of \$10,000 or more to Chef Robert Catering, Inc.

Amped up, LLC

Electrolight, LLC