



ETHICS COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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JOHN ST. CROIX
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: March 18, 2014
To: Members, Ethics Commission
From: John St. Croix, Executive Director
By: Shaista Shaikh, Assistant Deputy Director
Re: Audit Selection of Year 2013 Committees

This memorandum explains the Ethics Commission's audit selection guidelines and summarizes the levels of financial activity by the different types of committees that were active during 2013. At its March 24, 2014 meeting, the Commission will randomly select committees to be audited.

Staff has determined that it will be able to audit five recipient committees that were active in the November 5, 2013 election. The audit pool includes:

- all candidates¹ who ran for City elective office in the November 2013 election;
- ballot measure committees active in the November 2013 election; and
- general purpose recipient and primarily formed candidate committees that were active in 2013.

Table 1: Types and Financial Activity Levels of Committees Active in 2013

Level of Financial Activity ²	Candidates	Ballot Measure Committees	General Purpose Committees	No. of committees in audit pool	No. of committees to be selected
(1) \$10,000 to \$50,000	1	1	16	18	1 (6%)
(2) Above \$50,000 to \$100,000	1	0	4	5	1 (20%)
(3) Above \$100,000	2	4	3	9	3 (33%)
Total	4	5	23	32	5 (16%)

¹ There were no publicly financed candidates in the November 2013; public funded candidates would not be part of the audit pool because they are subject to a mandatory audit. The pool also excludes candidates for county central committees, general purpose committees that were selected for audit through the 2012 random selection process, and committees with financial activity of less than \$10,000.

² For candidates and ballot measure committees, the level of financial activity is based on the sum of expenditures made by these candidates and committees from the time their committees were formed through December 31, 2013. For general purpose committees, the level of financial activity is based on the expenditures made in 2013.

The November 2013 ballot involved the election of candidates for the offices of City Attorney, Treasurer, Assessor, and the District 4 seat of the Board of Supervisors; only four candidates with committees ran for office in 2013. The November 2013 ballot also included four ballot measures, which resulted in five ballot measure committees that were formed to support or oppose one or more of these measures. In total, the 2013 audit pool includes 32 committees that spent \$10,000 or more. Staff recommends that the Commission select five, or 16 percent, of the 32 committees for audit in the following manner: one committee from activity level of \$10,000 to \$50,000; one committee from activity level of greater than \$50,000 to \$100,000; and three committees from activity level greater than \$100,000.

Most of the audits from the 2011 audit batch have been completed and staff has commenced conducting audits from the 2012 audit batch. Given that the 2011 and 2012 audits need to be completed and that the number of committees with activity in the 2013 election is significantly lower than the number in past audit pools, staff recommends that the Commission select no more than five committees for audit from the 2013 audit pool (see attached list).

San Francisco Ethics Commission
2013 Audit Pool

Filer ID	Committee Name	Committee Type	Total Expenditures	Level of Financial Activity
1361187	Sierra Club, SF Bay Chapter Against B&C, sponsored by No Wall on the Northeast Waterfront, No on B&C (see attachment for full committee name).	BMC	\$33,437	1
1355788	Cisneros for Treasurer 2013	CTL	\$23,844	1
970432	BUILDING OWNERS AND MANAGERS ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE - BALLOT ISSUES (AKA BOMA-SF-PAC-BALLOT ISSUES)	RCP	\$10,548	1
970630	SAN FRANCISCO LABOR & NEIGHBOR MEMBER EDUCATION./POLITICAL ISSUES COMMITTEE	RCP	\$10,565	1
1362060	COMMITTEE FOR A BRIGHTER SAN FRANCISCO FUTURE	RCP	\$10,803	1
1342652	Latino Democratic Club: San Francisco	RCP	\$11,140	1
1329001	STANDING UP FOR WORKING FAMILIES, A COALITION OF TEACHERS, NURSES, FIREFIGHTERS, PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND HEALTH CARE ADVOCATES	RCP	\$11,152	1
961946	San Francisco Young Democrats	RCP	\$12,176	1
1245538	Plan C San Francisco PAC	RCP	\$15,503	1
1271203	San Francisco Municipal Executives' Association PAC	RCP	\$15,790	1
1318200	National Union of Healthcare Workers Candidate Committee for Quality Patient Care and Union Democracy	RCP	\$20,896	1
931558	Asian Pacific Democratic Club Political Action Committee	RCP	\$21,760	1
870449	BUILDING OWNERS AND MANAGERS ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE - INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES AKA BOMA-SF-PAC-IE	RCP	\$23,068	1
932123	GOLDEN GATE RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION PAC	RCP	\$24,404	1
1237101	San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council Political Organization of Workers for Employee Rights (POWER PAC)	RCP	\$24,826	1
921683	Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club PAC	RCP	\$32,540	1
1341796	SAN FRANCISCO ALLIANCE FOR JOBS AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH PAC	RCP	\$32,615	1
891575	SF FORWARD SPONSORED BY SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	RCP	\$38,201	1
1355781	Dennis Herrera for City Attorney 2013	CTL	\$96,482	2
842018	Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club PAC	RCP	\$52,201	2
840002	SAN FRANCISCO APARTMENT ASSOCIATION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE	RCP	\$54,476	2
1317554	San Francisco Police Officers Association Issues PAC	RCP	\$63,624	2
982683	Committee on Jobs Government Reform Fund	RCP	\$93,286	2
1353742	THE COMMITTEE ON FAIR DRUG PRICING -FAIR/SF - YES ON D, MAJOR FUNDING BY AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION	BMC	\$393,432	3
1359143	San Franciscans United to Protect Retirees and Taxpayers, Yes on A, A Coalition of labor, business and retirees with major support from the San Francisco Police Officers Association Issues PAC	BMC	\$433,905	3

San Francisco Ethics Commission
2013 Audit Pool

Filer ID	Committee Name	Committee Type	Total Expenditures	Level of Financial Activity
1348226	No Wall on the Northeast Waterfront, No on B & C, supported by local property owners, tenants, neighbors, and environmentalists. Top contributors include Richard and Barbara Stewart	BMC	\$904,985	3
1356686	SAN FRANCISCANS FOR PARKS, JOBS AND HOUSING, YES ON B & C, WITH MAJOR SUPPORT FROM PACIFIC WATERFRONT PARTNERS, LLC, CAHILL CONTRACTORS, INC., BUILDING AND LABOR	BMC	\$2,676,515	3
1356256	KATY TANG FOR SUPERVISOR 2013	CTL	\$133,379	3
1355864	Carmen Chu for Assessor 2013	CTL	\$203,200	3
990028	Protect Our Benefits	RCP	\$107,946	3
941562	SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL LABOR & NEIGHBOR PAC	RCP	\$114,841	3
746875	U A LOCAL 38 COPE FUND	RCP	\$127,536	3

Legend for "Committee Type"

BMC	Primarily Formed Ballot Measure Committee
CTL	Candidate-Controlled Committee
RCP	General Purpose Recipient Committee

Legend for "Level of Financial Activity"

1	\$10,000 to \$50,000
2	Above \$50,000 to \$100,000
3	Above \$100,000