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question about contribution period

Campaign Guidance

Tuesday, Jun 1 11:23 PM

Thursday, May 6 06:09 PM

The City Clerk forwarded your inquiry to the City Attorney Campaign Guidance Hotline

Candidates are permitted to contribute personal funds to their campaign committee or loan personal funds to their campaign committee outside of the 180 day fundraising window. The relevant provision is under Section [12.06.295.E](#) which states "Except as provided in this section, nothing in this chapter shall prohibit a candidate from making unlimited contributions to his or her own campaign."

And for personal loans to a campaign committee, please be aware that Section 12.06.295.D states "no candidate shall make loans to his or her own campaign or campaign committee where the outstanding total, at any one point in time, is more than twenty thousand dollars."

Finally, please be aware that, under Section 12.06.295.A-B, "a candidate must disclose the source of all personal funds deposited into his or her campaign bank account. If the source of the funds is a loan to the candidate, the name and address of the lender and the terms of the loan must also be disclosed," and "the information required [] must be reported, on a form provided by the city clerk, on or before the date of the next pre-election statement, which must be filed after the funds are deposited into the campaign bank account."

Office of the City Attorney, Campaign Guidance
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 16th Floor Tower
San Jose, CA 95113
Office No: (408) 535-1900
Fax No: (408) 998-3131
SJElections@sanjoseca.gov
www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=4796

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Thursday, May 6 01:18 PM

[External Email]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you've been well.

Quick question: I know that candidates for city office are prohibited from soliciting contributions for the primary election outside of the 180 days before the primary. Is a candidate permitted to create a committee and contribute or loan personal funds to the committee before the 180 day window? If yes, is the candidate permitted to spend those funds toward the Primary 2022 election outside the 180 days?

The code language is a bit confusing because it seems to indicate that the deposit of "any contributions" outside of the campaign contribution period is prohibited. That would seem to include contributions or loans from the candidate as well.

12.06.290 - Campaign and post-election contribution collection period.

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A.

No person shall solicit or accept any campaign contribution or deposit any contributions for any campaign into any municipal campaign bank account except during the campaign contribution period.

B.

The campaign contribution period for the primary municipal election for council or mayor shall:

1.

Begin on the one hundred eightieth day before the primary municipal election.

2.

End at 11:59 p.m. on the day before the primary municipal election.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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