



Venice Neighborhood Council

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February 6, 2009

Ms. Karen Kalfayan
Los Angeles City Clerk
200 North Spring Street, Room 360
Los Angeles, California 90012

Subject: Missing "For Identification Purposes Only" Designation In March Voter Guide

Dear Ms. Kalfayan:

I write concerning important inaccuracies in the City of Los Angeles' March 3, Official Sample Ballot ("Sample Ballot").

Three members of the Venice Neighborhood Council ("VNC"): myself, Vice-President Linda Lucks, and President Emeritus, DeDe Audet, were contacted several months ago about personally endorsing pro or con positions with respect to Measures "A" and "B." I agreed to sign on to the pro Measure "B" argument, Ms. Lucks signed on to the pro Measure "A" argument, and Ms. Audet signed on to the anti Measure "B" argument.

However, such pro/con endorsements were conditioned upon our VNC titles being "for identification purposes only." In short, the VNC has not taken positions on either Measure "A" or "B," which is why the Sample Ballot was supposed to reflect that there has not been a VNC endorsement, and that our titles were being used for identification purposes only.

Ms. Lucks, Ms. Audet, and I were all assured that this condition would be satisfied, especially since we made it clear that this limitation language was required by the VNC. We are disappointed that it was not.

While I am not sure what can be done at this point short of re-printing and re-mailing the Sample Ballots (which is of course cost and time prohibitive), we would appreciate anything you can do through other channels to make sure that the personal nature of our pro/con endorsements are communicated to the voters of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike R. Newhouse".

Mike Newhouse, President
Venice Neighborhood Council



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