



LAW DEPARTMENT

DATE: APRIL 30, 2020

**CITY ATTORNEY'S QUARTERLY REPORT ON ENFORCEMENT
OF LOBBYING REGULATIONS
TO THE COUNCIL AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to section 4-8-12 of the Austin City Code, the City Attorney submits this report to the Audit and Finance Committee related to compliance and enforcement of Chapter 4-8 (Regulation of Lobbyists) of the City Code (referred to as the Lobbying Ordinance).

In regard to quarterly activity reports for the period of October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, the City Clerk's Office provided the following statistical information, as of April 17, 2020 (unless otherwise stated).

Registrations as of January 10, 2020			
Individuals	Individuals Registered Individually	53	
	Individuals Registered under a Business Entity	35	
	Total Individuals Registered	88	
Business Entities	Business Entities Registered as Lobbyists	16	
Total Registrants	Total Registered Lobbyists (business entity and individuals)		104
Quarterly Reports			
October to December 2019 Quarter	Individual lobbyists who failed to submit a quarterly activity report by the January 10, 2020 deadline.		2
October to December 2019 Quarter	Individual lobbyists who failed to submit an initial or corrected quarterly activity report by February 4, 2020.		0
Prior Quarters	None outstanding		0

Annual Registration Fees			
October to December 2019 Quarter	Registered lobbyists who failed to timely pay annual registration fees by January 10, 2020		3
October to December 2019 Quarter	Registered lobbyists who failed to timely pay annual registration fees by January 31, 2020		0
July to September Quarter	Registered lobbyists who failed to timely pay annual registration fees by October 10, 2019		3
July to September Quarter	Registered lobbyists who failed to timely pay annual registration fees by October 18, 2019		0
Prior Quarters	Registered lobbyists who failed to pay annual registration fees by July 10, 2019		0
Client Compensation Reporting			
October to December 2019	Individual lobbyists who declined to report the amount of client compensation.		0
July to September	Individual lobbyists who declined to report the amount of client compensation.		0
Late Fees – None Outstanding			
October to December 2019	Individual lobbyists who received one or more late-fee notices ¹		3
October to December 2019	Lobbyists with unpaid late fees as of February 4, 2020		0
July to September Quarter	Individual lobbyists who received one or more late-fee notices		2

¹ Three lobbyists paid late fees because one filed a quarterly report timely but failed to correct the report within the 14-day period; in addition, two lobbyists failed to timely submit a quarterly report by the January 10th deadline.

July to September Quarter	Lobbyists with unpaid late fees as of September 3, 2019		0
Prior Quarters	Unpaid late fees as of September 3, 2019		0

The following table includes enforcement statistics required to be reported pursuant to City Code section 4-8-12 and includes statistical information from April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2020.

ENFORCEMENT - REGULATION OF LOBBYISTS APRIL 2017 – MARCH 2020	
Referrals from city clerk, auditor, or other departments	0
Citizen complaints	19
Number of Citizen Complaints addressed by Ethics Review Commission	19 ²
Investigations opened by the City Attorney	0
Cases settled	N/A
Subpoenas for documents	N/A
Witnesses subpoenaed	N/A
Cases tried	N/A
Cases in which a fine was imposed	N/A
Cases in which a fine was not imposed	N/A
Amount of fines assessed and collected	N/A
Law Department staff hours devoted for enforcement	28 hours

² On November 28, 2017, complaints were filed against 19 lobbyists, in which the complainant alleged failure to disclose client compensation in violation of section 4-8-6(A)(2) of the City Code. Between November 29, 2017 and February 7, 2018, the complainant advised that he was satisfied each of the 19 respondents to the complaints had either filed corrected reports or otherwise resolved the failure to report allegations. At a preliminary hearing on February 7, 2018, the Ethics Review Commission dismissed the 19 complaints.