Memorandum 2017-37

California Public Records Act Clean-Up: Stakeholder Outreach

The Commission,\(^1\) based on direction from the Legislature,\(^2\) has recently commenced the study of a nonsubstantive clean-up of the California Public Records Act ("CPRA")\(^3\) and related provisions.

The Commission has previously directed the staff, when any new study is initiated, to provide the Commission with information about stakeholders who may be participating in the study:

When inviting stakeholder participation in a new study, the staff should provide Commissioners with a list of the groups and individuals that were invited to participate.\(^4\)

In the staff memorandum introducing this study, the staff reported it had not yet begun building a mailing list for the study, as the Commission had not previously done work on this topic and therefore had no pre-existing mailing list to use as a base.\(^5\)

The staff has since begun work on establishing a mailing list for the study, having invited approximately 65 entities and individuals to participate in the study.\(^6\) **As always, anyone is welcome to participate in the Commission’s study, regardless of whether the staff has contacted them about participating.**

The list of invitees is attached as an exhibit to this memorandum. It includes a number of entities or representative organizations that typically make public records requests. This group includes newspaper and journalist organizations, as well as advocacy organizations with a special focus on transparency in

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1. Any California Law Revision Commission document referred to in this memorandum can be obtained from the Commission. Recent materials can be downloaded from the Commission’s website (www.clrc.ca.gov). Other materials can be obtained by contacting the Commission’s staff, through the website or otherwise.

2. See 2016 Cal. Stat. res. ch. 150 (ACR 148 (Chau)).


6. No invitee has as yet declined the staff’s invitation, but several have not yet responded.
government. It also includes some entities that deal primarily with consumer rights, tort reform, criminal justice, or firearm issues.

The list also includes many organizations that primarily receive public records requests. This group includes organizations representing California counties, cities, and special districts, public universities and colleges, as well as organizations representing school boards, public utilities, prosecutors, and public defenders.

The list also includes many entities that represent public employees, such as peace officers, correctional officers, public officials, prosecutors, defense attorneys, firefighters, and teachers.

In addition, the list includes entities that publicly expressed views on Proposition 42, a 2014 constitutional initiative on public access to local government records.

Finally, the list includes the Attorney General’s office, a legal scholar who has been a Commission consultant in the past, and the two legislative committees likely to be assigned a bill that would implement a Commission recommendation in the study.

The staff welcomes any suggestions of additional persons who should be invited to participate in this study.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Cohen
Staff Counsel
GROUPS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN CPRA STUDY (AS OF 7/31/17)

ACLU of Northern California
ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties
ACLU of Southern California
AFSCME California
Assembly Committee on Local Government
Association of California Water Agencies
Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence (California)
California Association of Realtors
California Association of Sanitation Agencies
California Attorney General’s Office
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
California Business Roundtable
California Clean Money Campaign
California Common Cause
California Community Colleges Chancellors Office
California Correctional Peace Officers Association
California District Attorneys Association
California Public Defenders Association
California Federation of Teachers
California Labor Federation
California Newspaper Publishers Association
California Nurses Association
California Peace Officers Association
California Professional Firefighters
California Rifle & Pistol Association
California School Boards Association
California Special Districts Association
California State Association of Counties
California State University
California Taxpayers Association
California Teachers Association
Californians Aware
CALPIRG
Center for Investigative Reporting/Reveal
City Clerks Association of California
City College of San Francisco
Civil Justice Association of California
Community College League of California
Consumer Attorneys of California
Electronic Frontier Foundation
First Amendment Coalition
First Amendment Project
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association
Kern County Community College District
Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence
League of California Cities
League of Women Voters of California
Los Angeles Community College District
Los Angeles County School Trustees Association
Los Rios Community College District
McClatchy Newspapers, Inc.
National Rifle Association
Public Policy Institute of California
Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press
Riverside Community College District
Rural County Representatives of California
San Diego Community College District
San Mateo County Community College District
Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Society of Professional Journalists
State Building & Construction Trades Council
State Center Community College District
University of California
Urban Counties of California