

## ETHICS RESOLUTION

- Most California cities have ethics ordinances. These can be values-based or conduct-based, general or specific, or some blend of either.
  - We have attached a number of samples from various other cities for your consideration. Many others are available online. California's large cities tend to have the more elaborate, detailed ethics ordinances.
- Ethics ordinances typical begin with a "preamble" or "purpose" or some other introductory statement which proclaims their intent, for example, to promote "responsible, fair and honest local government" or maintain "the highest standards of personal professional conduct in municipal government."
  - See attached ordinances for examples.
- Ethics ordinances may apply to any or all of the following: elected officials, appointed members of city commissions, high-level city officials or even all city employees.
  - See attached for examples. The City of Poway goes as far as to apply their ordinance to their city volunteers.
- Merced actually already has an ethics ordinance of sorts. However, we feel that we can improve upon it, and that doing so would constitute a step towards proactively cementing the culture that our council and our city government already have.
  - See attached for Resolution 2017-10, our "Values Statement" and "Rules of Order and Procedure."
- We included a limitation on gifts from "restricted sources." If, for example, a city councilmember receives more than \$50 in gifts in one year from a "restricted source," he or she would have to recuse him or herself from all votes involving that "restricted source."
  - See attached for the FPPC's rules on gifts, plus sample ordinances from Los Angeles and San Jose.