

November 17, 2017

Ms. Heather Halsey Executive Director Commission on State Mandates 980 Ninth Street, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA 95814 RECEIVED
November 20, 2017
Commission on
State Mandates

LATE FILING

Subject: Response to DOF Letter on 16-TC-04, Impasse Procedures

Dear Ms. Halsey:

This letter is in response to the comments submitted by the Department of Finance (DOF) in their letter dated October 18, 2017. MGT represents the test claimant, City of Oxnard (Oxnard) and filed the test claim after careful review of both bills in question, AB 646 of 2011 and AB 1606 of 2012 and previously denied test claim filing by City of Glendora (15-TC-01).

At the Commission on State Mandates hearing from January 27, 2017, Commission staff discusses differences between AB 646 and AB 1606. The combination of those two bills and changes in law are what makes this filing a reimbursable mandate. Although the Commission staff do not specifically analyze 1606 in the 15-TC-01 decision, staff indicated that AB 1606 clarified any misunderstand about AB 646 being voluntary. Until this filing of 16-TC-04, which pleads both bills, the Commission was unable to undertake a full analysis of the Impasse issue, until now. It would be premature for Oxnard, MGT or DOF to imply that any prior commission staff analysis or decision on 15-TC-01 has relevance to the Commission decision on 16-TC-04, since it identifies additional clarifying changes in law.

DOF asserts that AB 646 was not state-reimbursable because of "voluntary decisions" and "plain language reading of Government Code 3505.2." We find the statements by DOF to be misleading. As detailed in the new filing, 16-TC-04, the impasse procedures and fact-finding requirements are not voluntary. The combination of the two bills outlines the state requirements. Furthermore, Commission staff explained in detail that 15-TC-01 decision was in part, a matter of what was pled, not specifically the issues being alleged by DOF. The San Diego USD v. Commission case law described by DOF is not relevant as this is a new administrative program being created by the state specifically for local government and its use and implementation are required, not voluntary as DOF alleges.

We find DOF comments to be dismissive, self-serving and lacking relevance to the Impasse Procedures pled in this test claim. Should the Commission consider case law or arguments in the DOF letter, it would risk making an error in law as DOF cited cases and circumstances that are not applicable to the current test claim filing and the current decision before the Commission regarding Impasse Procedures outlined in 16-TC-04.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Dyer

Vice President, MGT Consulting Group



DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY EMAIL

I, the undersigned, declare as follows:

I am a resident of the County of Sacramento and I am over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action. My place of employment is 980 Ninth Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, California 95814.

On November 20, 2017, I served the:

Claimant Late Rebuttal Comments filed November 20, 2017

Impasse Procedures, 16-TC-04 Government Code Sections 3505.4, 3505.5, and 3505.7; as added or amended by Statutes 2011, Chapter 680 (AB 646) and Statutes 2012, Chapter 314 (AB 1606) City of Oxnard, Claimant

By making it available on the Commission's website and providing notice of how to locate it to the email addresses provided on the attached mailing list.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on November 20, 2017 at Sacramento, California.

Lorenzo Duran

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COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

Mailing List

Last Updated: 11/20/17 Claim Number: 16-TC-04

Matter: Impasse Procedures

Claimant: City of Oxnard

TO ALL PARTIES, INTERESTED PARTIES, AND INTERESTED PERSONS:

Each commission mailing list is continuously updated as requests are received to include or remove any party or person on the mailing list. A current mailing list is provided with commission correspondence, and a copy of the current mailing list is available upon request at any time. Except as provided otherwise by commission rule, when a party or interested party files any written material with the commission concerning a claim, it shall simultaneously serve a copy of the written material on the parties and interested parties to the claim identified on the mailing list provided by the commission. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1181.3.)

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