



JCOPE ROLLS OUT LOBBYING AMNESTY AND COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

The Joint Commission on Public Ethics (“JCOPE”) is rolling out new information about its upcoming Lobbying Amnesty and Compliance Program, set to begin January 1, 2016 and run through June 30, 2016.

The program is aimed at encouraging non-filing lobbyists and clients of lobbyists to comply with the Lobbying Act and disclose information about their lobbying activities. It will run parallel to a similar program begun by the New York City Clerk’s Office Lobbying Bureau.

Registered lobbyists and established clients of lobbyists are not eligible for the amnesty program; it only applies to those who have not submitted any filings between December 10, 2006 and the date amnesty is applied for. Also, applicants must never have been contacted by JCOPE for non-compliance or been the subject of a criminal proceeding for a Lobbying Act violation. Groups that are both lobbyists on their own behalf and the clients of a registered lobbyist may apply in either capacity but must meet eligibility requirements for each application.

More information on the program and how to apply for it can be found on JCOPE’s website at www.jcope.ny.gov. Information on the NYC City Clerk’s program can be found at <http://www.cityclerk.nyc.gov/html/lobbying/amnesty.shtml>.