SUPERVISION OF TRUSTEES AND FUNDRAISERS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES ACT

(CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 12580-12599.5)

§ 12580. Citation

This article may be cited as the Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act.

§ 12581. Application of article

This article applies to all charitable corporations and trustees holding property for charitable purposes commercial fundraisers for charitable purposes, fund-raising counsel for charitable purposes, and commercial coventurers, over which the state or the Attorney General has enforcement or supervisory powers. The provisions of this article shall not apply to any committee as defined in Section 82013 which is required to and does file any statement pursuant to the provisions of Article 2 (commencing with Section 84200) of Chapter 4 of Title 9.

§ 12581.2. "Solicitation" or "Soliciting"

As used in this article, "solicitation" or "soliciting" for charitable purposes means any request, plea, entreaty, demand, or invitation, or attempt thereof, to give money or property, in connection with which any of the following applies:

- (a) Any appeal is made for charitable purposes.
- **(b)** The name of any charity, philanthropic or charitable organization, is used or referred to in any such appeal as an inducement for making any such gift.
- (c) Any statement is made to the effect that the gift or any part thereof will go to or be used for any charitable purpose or organization.
- (d) The name of any organization of law enforcement personnel, firefighters or other persons who protect the public safety is used or referred to as an inducement for transferring any money or property, unless the only expressed or implied purpose of the solicitation is for the sole benefit of the actual active membership of the organization.

§ 12582. Trustee defined

"Trustee" means (a) any individual, group of individuals, corporation, or other legal entity holding property in trust pursuant to any charitable trust, (b) any corporation which has accepted property to be used for a particular charitable corporate purpose as distinguished from the general purposes of the corporation, and (c) a corporation formed for the administration of a charitable trust, pursuant to the directions of the settlor or at the instance of the trustee.

§ 12582.1. Charitable corporation defined

"Charitable corporation" means any nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of this State for charitable or eleemosynary purposes and any similar foreign corporation doing business or holding property in this State for such purposes.

§ 12583. Trustees to whom article does not apply

The filing, registration and reporting provisions of this article do not apply to the United States, any state,

territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or to any of their agencies or governmental subdivisions, to any religious corporation sole or other religious corporation or organization which holds property for religious purposes, or to any officer, director, or trustee thereof who holds property for like purposes, to a cemetery corporation regulated under Chapter 19 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code^{1/2}, or to any committee as defined in Section 82013 which is required to and does file any statement pursuant to the provisions of Article 2 (commencing with Section 84200) of Chapter 4 of Title 9, or to a charitable corporation organized and operated primarily as a religious organization, educational institution, hospital, or a health care service plan licensed pursuant to Section 1349 of the Health and Safety Code.

(Amended by S.B. 73 (Kopp), 1997 Stats. ch. 892, Sec. 12.)

§ 12584. Establishment of register of charitable corporations and trustees

The Attorney General shall establish and maintain a register of charitable corporations and trustees subject to this article and of the particular trust or other relationship under which they hold property for charitable purposes and, to that end, may conduct whatever investigation is necessary, and shall obtain from public records, court officers, taxing authorities, trustees, and other sources, whatever information, copies of instruments, reports, and records are needed for the establishment and maintenance of the register.

§ 12585. Filing of copy of articles of incorporation or instrument providing for trustee's title, powers or duties

Every charitable corporation and trustee subject to this article who has received property for charitable purposes shall file with the Attorney General, within six months after any part of the income or principal is authorized or required to be applied to a charitable purpose, a copy of the articles of incorporation or other instrument providing for his title, powers or duties. If any part of the income or principal is authorized or required to be applied to a charitable purpose at the time this article takes effect, the filing shall be made within six months thereafter.

§ 12586. Filing of additional reports as to nature of assets held and administration thereof; rules and regulations; time for filing

- (a) Except as otherwise provided and except corporate trustees which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Banks of the State of California or to the Comptroller of Currency of the United States, every charitable corporation and trustee subject to this article shall, in addition to filing copies of the instruments previously required, file with the Attorney General periodic written reports, under oath, setting forth information as to the nature of the assets held for charitable purposes and the administration thereof by the corporation or trustee, in accordance with rules and regulations of the Attorney General.
- (b) The Attorney General shall make rules and regulations as to the time for filing reports, the contents thereof, and the manner of executing and filing them. He may classify trusts and other relationships concerning property held for a charitable purpose as to purpose, nature of assets, duration of the trust or other relationship, amount of assets, amounts to be devoted to charitable purposes, nature of trustee, or otherwise, and may establish different rules for the different classes as to time and nature of the reports required to the ends (1) that he shall receive reasonably current, periodic reports as to all charitable trusts or other relationships of a similar nature, which will enable him to ascertain whether they are being properly administered, and (2) that periodic reports shall not unreasonably add to the expense of the administration of charitable trusts and similar relationships. The Attorney General may suspend the filing of reports as to a particular charitable trust or relationship for a reasonable, specifically designated time upon written application of the trustee filed with the Attorney General and

after the Attorney General has filed in the register of charitable trusts a written statement that the interests of the beneficiaries will not be prejudiced thereby and that periodic reports are not required for proper supervision by his office.

- (c) A copy of an account filed by the trustee in any court having jurisdiction of the trust or other relationship, if the account substantially complies with the rules and regulations of the Attorney General, may be filed as a report required by this section.
- (d) The first report for a trust or similar relationship hereafter established, unless the filing thereof is suspended as herein provided, shall be filed not later than four (4) months and fifteen (15) days following the close of the first calendar or fiscal year in which any part of the income or principal is authorized or required to be applied to a charitable purpose. If any part of the income or principal of a trust previously established is authorized or required to be applied to a charitable purpose at the time this article takes effect, the first report shall be filed at the close of the calendar or fiscal year in which it was registered with the Attorney General or not later than four (4) months and fifteen (15) days following the close of such calendar or fiscal period.

§ 12586.1. Late fees

In addition to a registration fee, a charitable corporation or trustee, commercial fundraiser, fundraising counsel, or coventurer may be assessed a late fee or an additional fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each month or part of the month after the date on which the registration statement and financial report were due to be filed or after the period of extension granted for the filing if the charitable corporation or trustee, commercial fundraiser, fundraising counsel, or coventurer does any of the following:

- (a) Exists and operates in California without being registered.
- (b) Solicits contributions in California without being registered or, if applicable, bonded.
- (c) Fails to file its first report no later than four months and 15 days following the close of each calendar or fiscal year and has not requested an extension of time to file the annual report.
- (d) Fails to file its subsequent annual report no later than four months and 15 days following the close of each calendar or fiscal year subsequent to the filing of the first report and has not requested an extension of time to file the annual report.
- (e) Fails to file its annual registration/renewal form within the time specified by the Attorney General irrespective of other report filing requirements.
- (f) Fails to correct the deficiencies in its registration or annual report within 10 days of receipt of written notice of those deficiencies.

§ 12586.2. Use of late fees

All fines, penalties, attorney's fees, if any, as authorized by law, and costs of investigation paid to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 12598 shall be used by the Department of Justice solely for the administration of the Attorney General's charitable trust enforcement responsibilities.

§ 12587. Additional rules and regulations

The Attorney General may make additional rules and regulations necessary for the administration of this article, provided that any assessment of an annual registration or renewal fee from charitable trustees and corporations, commercial fundraisers, fundraising counsel, and commercial coventurers subject to this article,

authorized by statute or regulation, shall be used by the Department of Justice solely to operate and maintain the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts and provide public access via the Internet to reports filed with the Attorney General.

§ 12588. Investigation of transactions and relationships of corporations and trustees; authority to require persons to give information, produce books, etc.

The Attorney General may investigate transactions and relationships of corporations and trustees subject to this article for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the purposes of the corporation or trust are being carried out in accordance with the terms and provisions of the articles of incorporation or other instrument. He may require any agent, trustee, fiduciary, beneficiary, institution, association, or corporation, or other person to appear, at a named time and place, in the county designated by the Attorney General, where the person resides or is found, to give information under oath and to produce books, memoranda, papers, documents of title, and evidence of assets, liabilities, receipts, or disbursements in the possession or control of the person ordered to appear.

§ 12589. Order setting forth time and place when attendance required; obedience of orders; review

When the Attorney General requires the attendance of any person, as provided in Section 12588, he shall issue an order setting forth the time when and the place where attendance is required and shall cause the same to be delivered to or sent by registered mail to the person at least 14 days before the date fixed for attendance. Such order shall have the same force and effect as a subpoena and, upon application of the Attorney General, obedience to the order may be enforced by the superior court in the county where the person receiving it resides or is found, in the same manner as though the notice were a subpoena. The court, after hearing, for cause, and upon application of any person aggrieved by the order, shall have the right to alter, amend, revise, suspend or postpone all or any part of its provisions.

§ 12590. Public inspection of register and reports

Subject to reasonable rules and regulations adopted by the Attorney General, the register, copies of instruments, and the reports filed with the Attorney General shall be open to public inspection. The Attorney General shall withhold from public inspection any instrument so filed whose content is not exclusively for charitable purposes.

§ 12591. Proceedings to secure compliance with article; powers of attorney general; jurisdiction of court

The Attorney General may institute appropriate proceedings to secure compliance with this article and to invoke the jurisdiction of the court. The powers and duties of the Attorney General provided in this article are in addition to his existing powers and duties. Nothing in this article shall impair or restrict the jurisdiction of any court with respect to any of the matters covered by it, except that no court shall have jurisdiction to modify or terminate any trust of property for charitable purposes unless the Attorney General is a party to the proceedings.

§ 12591.1. Civil penalties

- (a) Any person who violates any provision of this article with intent to deceive or defraud any charity or individual is liable for a civil penalty not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).
- **(b)** Except as provided in subdivision (d), any person who violates any other provision of this article is liable for a civil penalty, as follows:
 - (1) For the first offense, a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
 - (2) For any subsequent offense, a fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).

- (c) Any offense committed under this article involving a solicitation may be deemed to have been committed at either the place at which the solicitation was initiated or at the place where the solicitation was received.
- (d) Any person who violates only subdivision (c), (d), (e), or (f) of Section 12586.1 shall not be liable for a civil penalty under subdivision (b) if the person (1) has not received reasonable notice of the violation and (2) has not been given a reasonable opportunity to correct the violation. The Attorney General shall notify in writing a person who violates only subdivisions (c), (d), (e), or (f) of Section 12586.1 that he or she has 30 days to correct the violation.
- (e) The recovery of a civil penalty pursuant to this section precludes assessment of a late fee pursuant to Section 12586.1 for the same offense.

§ 12591.2. Assurance of voluntary compliance

In any case where the Attorney General has authority to institute an action or proceeding under this article, he or she may accept an assurance of voluntary compliance through which any person alleged to be engaged in any method, act, or practice in violation of this article agrees to discontinue that method, act, or practice. The assurance may, among other terms, include a stipulation of a voluntary payment by the person of the cost of the investigation or of an amount to be held in escrow pending the outcome of an action or as restitution to aggrieved persons, or both. The assurance of voluntary compliance shall not be considered an admission of a violation for any purpose. The assurance of compliance shall be in writing and shall be filed with a superior court in this state for approval and if approved shall thereafter be filed with the clerk of the court. Matters closed may at any time be reopened by the court for further proceedings in the public interest. In the event of an alleged violation, the Attorney General may, at his or her discretion, either initiate contempt proceedings or proceed as if the assurance of voluntary compliance has not been accepted.

§ 12592. Application of article

This article shall apply regardless of any contrary provisions of any instrument.

§ 12593. Furnishing copies of instruments and records to attorney general; duty of custodian of records

Every person who offers for probate any instrument which establishes a testamentary trust of property for charitable purposes or who records in any county or city and county any inter vivos transfer of property for charitable purposes shall furnish a copy of such document to the Attorney General. The custodian of the records of a court having jurisdiction of probate matters or of charitable trusts shall furnish such copies of papers, records and files of his office relating to the subject of this article as the Attorney General requires.

§ 12594. Filing of applications for tax exemption

Every officer, agency, board, or commission of this State receiving applications for exemption from taxation of any corporation, charitable trust or similar relationship in which the corporation or trustee is subject to this article shall annually file with the Attorney General a list of all applications received during the year.

§ 12595. Construction of act

This act shall be so construed as to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law of those states which enact it.

§ 12596. Limitation of action by attorney general

Any action brought by the Attorney General against trustees or other persons holding property in trust for charitable purposes or against any charitable corporation or any director or officer thereof to enforce a charitable trust or to impress property with a trust for charitable purposes or to recover property or the proceeds thereof for

and on behalf of any charitable trust or corporation, may be brought at any time within ten (10) years after the cause of action shall have accrued.

§ 12597. Provision in judgment in action to secure compliance to pay reasonable expenses incurred by state

In any proceeding brought by the Attorney General to secure compliance with the provisions of Sections 12584 to 12587, inclusive, or any regulation issued pursuant thereto, the judgment, if in favor of the state, shall provide that the person having the responsibility or duty to comply with such provisions on behalf of any charitable trust or charitable corporation, shall pay the reasonable expense necessarily incurred by the state in the investigation and prosecution of such action.

§ 12598. Supervision of charitable trusts; enforcement

- (a) The primary responsibility for supervising charitable trust in California, for insuring compliance with trusts and articles of incorporation, and for protection of assets held by charitable trusts and public benefit corporations, resides in the Attorney General. The Attorney General has broad powers under common law and California statutory law to carry out these charitable trust enforcement responsibilities. These powers include, but are not limited to, charitable trust enforcement actions under all of the following:
 - (1) This article.
- (2) Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 2215) and Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 2250) of Title 8 of Part 4 of Division 3 of the Civil Code.
 - (3) Division 2 (commencing with Section 5000) of Title 1 of the Corporations Code.
- (4) Sections 328, 1080, 15004, 15409, 15680 to 15685, 16060 to 16062, 16064, and 17200 to 17210, inclusive, of the Probate Code.
- (5) Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 17200) of Part 2 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code, and Sections 17500 and 17535 of the Business and Professions Code.
 - (6) Sections 319, 326.5, and 532d of the Penal Code.
- (b) The Attorney General shall be entitled to recover from defendants named in a charitable trust enforcement action all actual costs incurred in conducting that action, including the costs of auditors, consultants, and experts employed or retained to assist with the investigation, preparation, and presentation in court of the charitable trust enforcement action.
- (c) Costs shall be recovered by the Attorney General pursuant to court order. At the time of entering judgment or approving settlement of a charitable trust enforcement action, as defined in subdivision (a), the court shall make findings on whether the Attorney General's action has resulted in pecuniary benefits or corrected a breach of trust for any charitable organization, or charitable purpose. If the court finds in the affirmative, the court shall award recovery of costs in the charitable trust enforcement action to the Attorney General and shall order that costs be paid by the charitable organization and the individuals named as defendants in or otherwise subject to the action, in a manner that the court finds to be equitable and fair. The court shall not award costs pursuant to this subdivision which exceed one-third of the pecuniary benefit to any charitable organization or charitable purpose realized by the Attorney General's action.
- (d) Upon a finding by the court that a lawsuit filed by the Attorney General was frivolous or brought in bad faith, the court may award the defendant charity the costs of that action.

- (e)(1) The Attorney General may refuse to register or may revoke or suspend the registration of a charitable corporation or trustee, commercial fundraiser, fundraising counsel, or coventurer whenever the Attorney General finds that the charitable corporation or trustee, commercial fundraiser, fundraising counsel, or coventurer has violated or is operating in violation of any provisions of this article.
- (2) All actions of the Attorney General shall be taken subject to the rights authorized pursuant to Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

§ 12599 Commercial Fundraisers

- (a) "Commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes" is defined as any individual, corporation, or other legal entity who for compensation does either of the following:
- (1) Solicits funds, assets, or property in this state for charitable purposes.
- (2) As a result of a solicitation of funds, assets, or property in this state for charitable purposes, receives or controls the funds, assets, or property solicited for charitable purposes.
- (3) Employs, procures, or engages any compensated person to solicit, receive, or control funds, assets, or property for charitable purposes.

A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes shall include any person, association of persons, corporation, or other entity that obtains a majority of its inventory for sale by the purchase, receipt, or control for resale to the general public, of salvageable personal property solicited by an organization qualified to solicit donations pursuant to Section 148.3 of the Welfare & Institutions Code.

A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes shall not include a "trustee" as defined in Section 12582 or 12583, a "charitable corporation" as defined in Section 12582.1, or any employee thereof. A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes shall not include an individual who is employed by or under the control of a commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes registered with the Attorney General. A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes shall not include any federally insured financial institution which holds as a depository funds received as a result of a solicitation for charitable purposes.

As used in this section, "charitable purposes" includes any solicitation in which the name of any organization of law enforcement personnel, firefighters, or other persons who protect the public safety is used or referred to as an inducement for transferring any funds, assets, or property, unless the only expressed or implied purpose of the solicitation is for the sole benefit of the actual active membership of the organization.

(b) A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes shall, prior to soliciting any funds in California for charitable purposes, or prior to receiving and controlling any funds or assets as a result of a solicitation in this state for charitable purpose, register with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts on a registration form provided by the Attorney General. Renewals of registration shall be filed with the Registry of Charitable Trusts by January 15 of each calendar year in which the commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes does business and shall be effective for one year. For 1990, a registration or renewal fee of two hundred dollars (\$200) shall be required for registration of a commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes, and shall be payable by certified or cashier's check to the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts at the time of registration and renewal. The Attorney General may adjust the annual registration or renewal fee as needed to ensure that revenues will fully offset, but not exceed, the actual costs incurred by the Department of Justice pursuant to this section. The Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts may grant extensions of time to file annual registration as required, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 12586.

- (c) A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes shall file with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts, and with the sheriff of each county in which the fundraiser intends to solicit funds or the sheriff's designee, an annual financial report on a form provided by the Attorney General, accounting for all funds collected pursuant to any solicitation for charitable purposes during the preceding calendar year. The annual financial report shall be filed with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts, and with the sheriff of each county in which the fundraiser intends to solicit funds or the sheriff's designee, no later than 30 days after the close of the preceding calendar year. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring the sheriff of any county, or the sheriff's designee, to maintain on file any annual financial report filed pursuant to this subdivision.
- (d) The contents of the forms for annual registration and annual financial reporting by commercial fundraisers for charitable purposes shall be established by the Attorney General in a manner consistent with the procedures set forth in subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 12586. The annual financial report shall require a detailed, itemized accounting of funds solicited for charitable purposes on behalf of each charitable organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or for each charitable purpose during the accounting period, and shall include, among other data, the following information for funds solicited by the commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes:
 - (1) Total revenues.
 - (2) The fee or commission charged by the commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes.
 - (3) Salaries paid by the commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes to its officers and employees.
 - (4) Fundraising expenses.
 - (5) Distributions to the identified charitable organization or purpose.
- (6) The names and addresses of any director, officer or employee of the commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes who is a director, officer, or employee of any charitable organization listed in the annual financial report.
- (e) A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes that obtains a majority of its inventory for sale by the purchase, receipt, or control for resale to the general public, of salvageable personal property solicited by an organization qualified to solicit donations pursuant to Section 148.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code shall file with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts, and not with the sheriff of any county, an annual financial report on a form provided by the Attorney General that is separate and distinct from forms filed by other commercial fundraisers for charitable purposes pursuant to subsections (c) and (d).
- (f) It shall be unlawful for any commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes to solicit funds in this state for charitable purposes unless the commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes had complied with the registration or annual renewal and financial reporting requirements of this article. Failure to comply with these registration or annual renewal and financial reporting requirements shall be grounds for injunction against solicitation in this state for charitable purposes and other civil remedies provided by law.
- (g) A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes is a constructive trustee for charitable purposes as to all funds collected pursuant to solicitation for charitable purposes and shall account to the Attorney General for all funds. A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes is subject to the Attorney General's supervision and enforcement over charitable funds and assets to the same extent as a trustee for charitable purposes under this article.
- (h) It shall be unlawful for a commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes to not disclose the percentage of total fundraising expenses of the fundraiser upon receiving a written or oral request from a person solicited for a contribution for a charitable purpose. "Percentage of total fundraising expenses," as used in this section, means the ratio of the total expenses of the fundraiser to the total revenue received by the fundraiser for the charitable purpose for which funds are being solicited, as reported on the most recent financial report filed with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts. A commercial fundraiser shall disclose this information in writing within five working days from receipt of a request by mail or fax. A commercial fundraiser shall orally disclose this information immediately upon a request made in person or in a telephone conversation and shall follow this response with a written disclosure within five working days. Failure to comply with the requirements of this subdivision shall be grounds for an injunction against solicitation in this state for charitable purposes and other

civil remedies provided by law.

- (i) If the Attorney General issues a report to the public containing information obtained from registration forms or financial report forms filed by commercial fundraisers for charitable purposes, there shall be a separate section concerning commercial fundraisers for charitable purposes that obtain a majority of their inventory for sale by the purchase, receipt, or control for resale to the general public, of salvageable personal property solicited by an organization qualified to solicit donations pursuant to Section 148.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. The report shall include an explanation of the distinctions between such thrift store operations and other types of commercial fundraising.
- (j) If any provision of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or application of this section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable.

§ 12599.1. Fundraising Counsel

- (a) "Fundraising counsel for charitable purposes" is defined as any person who is described by all of the following:
- (1) For compensation plans, manages, advises, counsels, consults, or prepares material for, or with respect to, the solicitation in this state of funds, assets or property for charitable purposes.
 - (2) Does not solicit funds, assets, or property for charitable purposes.
 - (3) Does not receive or control funds, assets, or property solicited for charitable purposes in this state.
- (4) Does not employ, procure, or engage any compensated person to solicit, receive, or control funds, assets, or property for charitable purposes.
 - (b) "Fundraising counsel for charitable purposes" does not include any of the following:
- (1) An attorney, investment counselor, or banker who in the conduct of that person's profession advises a client when actually engaged in the giving of legal, investment, or financial advice.
 - (2) A trustee as defined in Section 12582 or 12583.
 - (3) A charitable corporation as defined in Section 12582.1, or any employee thereof.
- (4) A person employed by or under the control of a fundraising counsel for charitable purposes, as defined in subdivision (a).
- (5) A person, corporation, or other legal entity, engaged as an independent contractor directly by a trustee or a charitable corporation, that prints, reproduces, or distributes written materials prepared by a trustee, a charitable corporation, or any employee thereof, or that performs artistic or graphic services with respect to written materials prepared by a trustee, a charitable corporation, or any employee thereof, provided that the independent contractor does not perform any of the activities described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a).
- **(6)** A person whose total annual gross compensation for performing any activity described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) does not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).
 - (c) A fundraising counsel for charitable purposes shall, prior to managing, advising, counseling,

consulting, or preparing material for, or with respect to, the solicitation in this state of funds, assets, or property for charitable purposes, register with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts on a registration form provided by the Attorney General. Renewals of registration shall be filed with the Registry of Charitable Trusts by January 15 of each calendar year in which the fundraising counsel for charitable purposes does business and shall be effective for one year.

A registration or renewal fee of two hundred dollars (\$200) shall be required for registration of a fundraising counsel for charitable purposes, and shall be payable by certified or cashier's check to the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts at the time of registration and renewal. The Attorney General may adjust the annual registration or renewal fee as needed pursuant to this section. The Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts may grant extensions of time to file annual registration as required, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 12586.

- (d) A fundraising counsel for charitable purposes shall file annually with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts on a form provided by the Attorney General, a report listing each person, corporation, or other legal entity for whom the fundraising counsel has performed any services described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), and a statement certifying that the fundraising counsel had a written contract with each listed person, corporation, or other legal entity that contained the following provisions:
- (1) The legal name and address of the person, corporation, or other legal entity as registered with the Attorney General pursuant to this article, or if the person, corporation, or other legal entity is not registered with the Attorney General, the legal name and address of the person, corporation, or other legal entity as registered with the Secretary of State.
- (2) A statement of the respective obligations of the fundraising counsel and the person, corporation, or other legal entity.
- (3) A clear statement of the fees and any other form of compensation, including commissions or property, that will be paid to the fundraising counsel.
- (4) The effective and termination dates of the contract and the date services will commence with respect to solicitation in this state of funds, assets, or property for charitable purposes.
- (5) A statement that the person, corporation, or other legal entity exercises control and approval over the content and volume or any solicitation for charitable purposes.
- (6) A statement that the fundraising counsel will not at any time solicit funds, assets, or property for charitable purposes, receive or control funds, assets, or property solicited for charitable purposes, or employ, procure, or engage any compensated person to solicit, receive, or control funds, assets, or property for charitable purposes.
- (7) The signature of an authorized officer or director of the person, corporation, or other legal entity and the signature of the authorized contracting officer of the fundraising counsel.
- (e) It shall be unlawful for any fundraising counsel for charitable purposes to manage, advise, counsel, consult, or prepare material for, or with respect to, the solicitation in this state of funds, assets, or property for charitable purposes unless the fundraising counsel for charitable purposes has complied with the registration or annual renewal and financial reporting requirements of this article.

- **(f)** A fundraising counsel for charitable purposes is subject to the Attorney General's supervision and enforcement to the same extent as a trustee for charitable purposes under this article.
- (g) If any provision of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or application of this section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable.

§12599.2. Commercial Coventurers

- (a) "Commercial coventurer" is defined as any person who, for profit, is regularly and primarily engaged in trade or commerce other than in connection with the raising of funds, assets, or property for charitable organizations or charitable purposes, and who represents to the public that the purchase or use of any goods, services, entertainment, or any other thing of value will benefit a charitable organization or will be used for a charitable purpose.
- **(b)** A commercial coventurer is a trustee as defined in Section 12582. Notwithstanding the requirements of Sections 12585 and 12586, a commercial coventurer is not required to register or file periodic reports with the Attorney General provided that the commercial coventurer:
- (1) Has a written contract with a trustee or charitable corporation subject to this article, signed by two officers of the trustee or charitable corporation, prior to representing to the public that the purchase or use of any goods, services, entertainment, or any other thing of value will benefit the trustee or charitable corporation or will be used for a charitable purpose.
- (2) Within 90 days after commencement of those representations, and at the end of each successive 90-day period during which the representations are made, transfers to that trustee or charitable corporation subject to this article all funds, assets, or property received as a result of the representations.
- (3) Provides in conjunction with each transfer required by paragraph (2) a written accounting to the trustee or charitable corporation subject to this article of all funds, assets, or property received sufficient to enable the trustee or charitable corporation (A) to determine that representations made to the public on its behalf have been adhered to accurately and completely, and (B) to prepare its periodic report filed with the Attorney General pursuant to Section 12586.
- (c) A commercial coventurer that does not meet the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subdivision (b) shall register and report to the Attorney General on forms required by the Attorney General. An annual registration or renewal fee of two hundred dollars (\$200) shall be required for registration or renewal of registration of a commercial coventurer, and shall be payable by certified or cashier's check to the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts at the time of registration or renewal. The Attorney General may adjust the annual registration or renewal fee as needed pursuant to this section.

§ 12599.5 Bond

Each application for registration or renewal of registration under subdivision (b) of Section 12599 shall be accompanied by a cash deposit or by a bond issued by an admitted surety in favor of the State of California and in a form acceptable to the Attorney General. The cash deposit or bond shall be in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) and shall be for the benefit of any person damaged as a result of malfeasance or misfeasance in the conduct of the activities specified in subdivision (a) of Section 12599. The bond may be in the form of a rider to a larger blanket liability bond.