

Proposed ordinance

THE PROTECT HAYWARD FROM CORPORATE BRIBERY & OVERCHARGING ORDINANCE

Companies, whose employees are convicted of bribing public officials or repeatedly overcharging, in the course of employment and for the benefit of the company, shall be barred from opening or starting a new business in Hayward.

For a two year period from the date the business opens; if criminality of this kind is proven then the business shall be barred from further operation in Hayward. All new businesses are required to declare that employees do not and have not engaged in these types of criminal activities. These activities may happen outside of Hayward in other places where the company does business.

If criminality is not proven after two years all restrictions are removed. Businesses open prior to this ordinance are not restricted. This ordinance is effective immediately.

Vast Mexico Bribery Case Hushed Up by Wal-Mart After Top-Level Struggle by David Barstow of The New York Times

In a confidential report to his superiors, Wal-Mart's lead investigator, a former F.B.I. special agent, summed up their initial findings this way: "There is reasonable suspicion to believe that Mexican and USA laws have been violated." The lead investigator recommended that Wal-Mart expand the investigation. Instead, an examination by The New York Times found, Wal-Mart's leaders shut it down.

FULL STORY at <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/22/business/at-wal-mart-in-mexico-a-bribe-inquiry-silenced.html?pagewanted=all>

Wal-Mart to pay \$2.1 Million for Failing to Stop Overcharging Customers

Wal-Mart has agreed to pay \$2.1 million for overcharging consumers in violation of a 2008 judgment against the retail chain. Today's modified judgment is the result of Wal-Mart's failure to comply with a 2008 judgment that required the retail chain to resolve errors in pricing at checkout stands.

"Consumers should feel confident that the price on the shelf will be the same price they are charged at the cash register," said Attorney General Harris. "Californians who shop at Wal-Mart should know that they have the right to ask for the appropriate discount."

In December 2005, the Attorney General's office and the San Diego District Attorney's office investigated allegations that Wal-Mart stores in California were scanning items at a higher price than the prices advertised on store shelves and signs. Through random price-checking, county Departments of Weights and Measures across the state found that 164 Wal-Mart stores in 30 counties had made scanning errors.

FULL STORY at http://oag.ca.gov/news/press_release?id=2648&y=&m=

