

Sep 27, 2010 6:38 pm US/Pacific

LA Co DA Investigates Vernon Contract

VERNON, Calif. (AP) — The [Los Angeles](#) County district attorney's office is looking into a 2009 contract between the city of Vernon and an energy firm owned by the wife of the then-city administrator.

The Los Angeles Times reports Monday that the inquiry follows the newspaper's report last month that Donal O'Callaghan received \$243,898 in consulting payments through the first half of this year through Tara Energy, Inc. a company headed by his wife, Kimberly McBride.

The payments were in addition to O'Callaghan's yearly salary of \$380,000.

The DA's office says prosecutors are trying to determine whether the contract represented a conflict of interest.

O'Callaghan's attorney Mark Werksman says his client has done nothing wrong and his pay was "absolutely appropriate and reasonable."

Information from: Los Angeles Times, <http://www.latimes.com>

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