



OFFICIAL WORD

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President's Message

On September 15, 2010, I had the privilege of being sworn in as President of our Association in beautiful San Diego at the League Annual Conference. It is truly an honor and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you and our organization.



Randi Johl, JD, MMC
CCAC President

Archbishop Desmond Tutu said "*The fundamental law of human beings is interdependence. A person is a person through other persons.*" So is the case for me.

I would not be able to do what I do unless others did for me. My faith sustains me and my son inspires me. When I'm on the road, my parents take care of the home front and my colleagues take care of the work front. My bosses support me, my friends laugh with me and my mentors teach me. I know each one of you works hard to balance the demands of life and have similar stories of shared success.



As you can see it takes a team of individuals to support one another. That is why the theme for the upcoming year is "TEAM Clerk - Together Everyone Achieves Much."

In these difficult economic times, where travel and training budgets are reduced or cut in their entirety, where furlough days are the new norm, where staffing is reduced to bare minimums... CCAC and I personally are more committed than ever to this organization and its membership. We are committed to helping clerks obtain their

CMC and MMC designations, providing funding through scholarships and grants for training, encouraging higher professional degrees, providing greater access to education, and maintaining quality in education and training.

We recognize the plight of the one and two person offices where getting away from the office for training to obtain a CMC and MMC designation pre-

sents a significant challenge. We also recognize the challenges of larger offices in attempting to put multiple staff members through Nuts & Bolts, TTC and LTC training with limited or no budgets. In some cases, members are paying for their education and training out of their own pockets, even though the education may be a condition of their employment.

These are some of the current challenges that present themselves to our profession and working together as a TEAM through our organization, with our members, and with our colleagues we will find the solutions to these challenges. This is our mutual commitment to each other as members of TEAM Clerk.

The last two weeks have been quite an adventure. Immediately after being sworn in as President, I was off to Keizer, Oregon to represent our team at the annual conference of the Oregon Association of Municipal Records (OAMR). The Oregon clerks were warm, inviting, hospitable and dare I say really fun! I made friends with the State

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President's Message Continued:

Presidents from Alaska (Katy Suiter), Oregon (Ruth Post) and Washington (Karen Reese) and our two Region IX Directors (Peggy Hawker and Kristie Smithers). Our IIMC President-Elect, Colleen Nicol, was also present. In getting to know the Oregon clerks, we have some of the same challenges, especially with respect to access to education for our members and limited travel and training budgets.

to swear in the newly-elected CCAC/League Executive Board. These three individuals are a part of my personal and professional team and I am grateful for their ongoing support. Thank you again for this opportunity to serve you. As a member of "TEAM Clerk" I am here to support our team and you individually. Please feel free to contact me at (209) 333-6702 or rjohl@lodi.gov anytime if you need support, have an idea to share, would like to get involved with the team, or simply want to say hello!



Your Executive Board is going to meet in Emeryville on October 28-29, 2010, for the annual CCAC Goal Setting Session to begin addressing some of these challenges. The session will be facilitated by Helen Kanowsky, retired City Clerk and trainer extraordinaire. It is our hope that your team of clerks on the Executive Board will come together for a short, focused strategic session to consider the highest priorities of our organization and identify specific goals to ac-

complish over the next year on your behalf.

In conclusion, I would like to thank City Clerk Kay Vinson, City Attorney Alan Burns, and Mayor Phil Katzakian for being present at the Department Meeting on September 15th



Looking to Track a Bill?

Are you interested in tracking a bill? Did you know that the full text of bills, resolutions and constitutional amendments, and their status, history, votes analyses and veto messages are available online?

Complete bill information is available online at the California State Legislature website www.legislature.ca.gov

Simply select the *Bill Information* link located on the left side of the home page. If you know the bill, select the session, and House of origin, and type the bill number to retrieve this information. To search, select the session, and House of origin, and type the keywords and/or author name(s).

Daily updates are also available at LegInfo as well as Subscription Services. Subscription Services is an optional, free feature of the California State Legislature web site. It is intended to aid the public as a convenient way to maintain a list of measures of interest and to receive automatic email notification on any changes.

CCAC Legislative Director's Report

LEAGUE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The League Annual Conference was held September 15-17 at the San Diego Convention Center. The City Clerk's Department Pre-Conference Workshop with swearing in of new officers was conducted on Wednesday, September 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The workshop, "Maneuvering in the Maze of the FPPC, the Secretary of State, and the State Attorney General," with featured speaker Michael D. Martello, Interim Town Attorney, Los Gatos, provided an overview of the three major offices by addressing what each agency does and how that translates to roles/responsibilities for City Clerks.

LEAGUE 2010 STRATEGIC GOALS

Protect Local Control and Funding for Vital Local Services. Use statewide ballot measure and legislative and legal advocacy to achieve reforms that protect local control and abolish the power of the state to borrow, divert or impose restrictions on the use of all local revenue sources, including locally imposed or levied taxes, the local shares of all transportation tax revenues (including public transit funding), the redevelopment tax increment, and any other local revenue source used to fund vital local services.

Support Reform of the Structure, Governance, Management and Financing of State Government. Build on the success of the 2009 Local Government Summit on State Governance and Fiscal Reform by working collaboratively with other stakeholder groups to advanced reforms to modernize the structure, governance, management and method of financing state government.

Promote Economic Stimulus, Infrastructure Investment, Business Development and Job Creation. Promote federal, state and local investment in transportation, water, redevelopment and other critical infrastructure projects that will support

the retention and creation of new private businesses and jobs in our cities and state.

PROPOSITION 22

Proposition 22 is the "Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Project Act" which will be on the November 2010 statewide ballot. The measure is co-sponsored by the League, the Alliance for Jobs and the California Transit Association. More than 500 groups and local governments including public safety, business, labor, taxpayer, environmental groups and many others have joined the coalition to support Prop. 22. The measure would stop the State from taking, borrowing or diverting local government revenues, including:

- (1) revoking the State's ability to borrow local government property tax funds;
- (2) preventing the State from redirecting or diverting locally levied taxes, including parcel taxes, sales taxes, utility user taxes, transit occupancy taxes and other locally imposed taxes that are currently passed by local governments and/or their voters and dedicated to cities, counties and special districts;
- (3) preventing the state from redirecting or diverting redevelopment tax increment funds; and
- (4) protecting gas tax funds which should be used at the local level for road repair, congestion relief, and public transit services like buses and commuter rail.

Proposition 22 has been the League's primary focus for this year.

SPECIFIC LEGISLATION

AB 1668 (Knight) Extending Time for Filing Council Vacancies – The Governor signed into law, **effective January 1, 2011**, a bill giving cities greater flexibility when filing vacant council seats. The

(Continued on page 4)



Dawn Abrahamson, MMC
Legislative Director

Newly Designated!!

Congratulations to the following IIMC Members for achieving their designations!

Master Municipal Clerk

- o Tony Russell, MMC, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority

Certified Municipal Clerk:

- o Antoinette M. Mann, CMC, City of Thousand Oaks
- o Eileen C. Gomez, CMC, City of Colton
- o Lorraine P. Lopez, CMC, City of Corcoran
- o Suellen J. Johnston, CMC, City of Dixon
- o Valerie Herrera, CMC, City of Fontana
- o Lisette Chel, CMC, City of Laguna Beach
- o Carey L. Allen, CMC, March Joint Powers Authority
- o Mindy Cuppy, CMC, City of Rancho Cordova
- o Bess E. McGladrey, CMC, City of Rancho Mirage



Congratulations!

CCAC Legislative Director Report Cont.

new law extends the appointment period to fill a vacant City Council seat from 30 to 60 days. A similar bill, AB 18, failed the previous year. The League, CCAC and numerous cities reiterated the need for additional time due to the extensive public process required to fill vacancies and costs associated with holding special elections. Thankfully, the second attempt was successful and AB 1688 is now law.

AB 155 (Mendoza) Local Government: Bankruptcy Proceedings – The municipal bankruptcy bill, which would have required local agencies to obtain permission from a State agency to file for bankruptcy, failed due to a lack of sufficient votes on the Senate floor. This bill may come back in some other form in the near future.

AB 1717 (De Leon) Option of receiving election materials (sample ballot, ballot pamphlet, notice of polling place) electronically – This bill was Chaptered on July 19, 2010 and will allow a voter to opt out of receiving his or her sample ballot and other ballot materials by mail, and instead obtain them via electronic means such as e-mail or accessing them from a county's or city's intranet website.

AB 1681 (Yamada) All Mail Voting for Yolo County – After all of CCAC's hard work, this bill was unfortunately vetoed by the Governor on September 30, 2010. AB 1681 would have created a five-year pilot program for Yolo County to conduct up to three local elections via all-mail ballots. The bill carried a number of conditions pursuant to which the elections may be held. One of the most important aspects of the bill was that it required a written report be provided to the State that would have included statistics associated with voter turnout, costs compared to traditional elections, and voter fraud. This report would have served as an **important tool** to measure the preliminary success for future all-mail ballot elections in the State.

AB 1921 (Davis) Electronic FPPC Filings – This bill was Chaptered on July 9, 2010 and will increase the number of participants in existing pilot program for electronic filing of FPPC Statements of Economic Interests (Form 700). Existing law authorizes the Counties of Los Angeles, Merced, Orange, and Stanislaus to participate in a pilot program to permit the electronic filings of FPPC Statements of Economic Interests. AB 1921 authorizes the

(Continued on page 5)

2010 New Law & Election Seminar

The New Law & Election Seminar is December 8 – 10 at the Monterey Marriott Hotel. Go to www.cacities.org/events and scroll down to the December meetings to sign up.

The planning committee has put together a strong program with the technical, legal and legislative updates clerks need to keep current.

Session highlights include:

- Elections & New Law Update
- The Administrative Record
- What Will Elections and Redistricting Look Like in 2011?
- Ranked Choice Voting

- Initiatives, Recalls & Referendums
- Public Disclosure of Private Information
- Getting the most out of your Boards and Commissions
- FPPC Update
- Strategies and experiences to elevate the perception of the clerk
- Featured keynoter: Martha Beck, *Oprah Magazine* Columnist and author
- And more!

Contact Lorraine Okabe at 916/658-8236 or okabel@cacities.org if you have questions.

CCAC Legislative Director Report Cont.

Counties of Santa Clara and Ventura, as well as the City of Long Beach.

AB 1955 (De La Torre) Incompatible Offices- This bill died in the Senate Local Government Committee on August 31, 2010. This bill would have limited a public officer, including, but not limited to, an appointed or elected member of a governmental board, commission, committee, or other body, from simultaneously holding two public offices that are incompatible, unless simultaneous holding of the particular offices is compelled or expressly authorized by law.

This bill would have created more confusion for appointed and elected officials. The bill would have added two specific examples where public offices are incompatible under Government Code Section 1099:

1. When an office has the power of eminent domain over property that is under the geographic jurisdiction of the

other office; and

2. When an office has the power to set a fee or a rate to impose a tax or levy that may directly or indirectly affect the office.

Opponents argued that the bill was written too broadly and would have likely captured offices that have been long understood to be compatible. Had it passed, councilmembers that hold seats on Joint Power Authorities, commissions, and other boards could have been forced to forfeit their council seats.

STATE BUDGET

The State of California still does not have a budget. The Constitution requires the Legislature to pass the budget bill by June 15. The 2009-2010 Legislative Session ended 62 days into the current fiscal year without a budget and special sessions will be necessary. Budget negotiations continue and the League is monitoring that activity.

Administrative Services Policy Committee



Randi Johl, JD, MMC
CCAC President

The Administrative Services Policy Committee met on September 15, 2010 at the League Annual Conference in San Diego. This was the last Committee meeting for the 2010 year. The Committee considers matters related to election law and administration, insurance and tort reform, the Brown Act, the Public Records Act, the Political Reform Act and other conflict of interest laws, and regulation of smoking and tobacco products.

The Committee considered Annual Conference Resolution No. 1 relating to the League Bylaws. The Committee passed Resolution No. 1 as recommended thereby referring the item to the General Resolutions Committee, where the resolution was approved by the requisite 2/3 vote.

Resolution No. 1 provided five amendments and additions to the current League Bylaws. The amendments and additions are as follows:

1. Article VII, Section 1 was revised to include a statement that a goal of the League is to ensure the Board of Directors reflects the diverse ethnic and social fabric of the State.
2. Article VII, Section 2 was revised to include 12 directors-at-large, instead of 10.
3. Article VII, Section 2 was revised to include ten largest cities and directors, instead of
4. Article VII, Section 5 was revised to include substitute nominating committee members from the same or nearby regional division.
5. Article XIV, Section 1 was revised to include a statement regarding conflicts of interest.

If you have any questions regarding the above, or would like additional information regarding the meeting or the Committee, please feel free to contact me and I will do my best to assist you with your inquiry.

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