



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

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Staff Report
October 23, 2007

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

Title: City Attorney's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2006-2007

Location/Council District: City-Wide

Recommendation: Receive and file the Annual Report and provide direction to the City Attorney

Contact: Eileen M. Teichert, City Attorney 808-5346

Presenter: Eileen M. Teichert, City Attorney 808-5346

Department: City Attorney

Division: N/A

Organization No: 0500

Description/Analysis

Issue: The attached report, which covers fiscal year 2006-2007, is the twelfth annual report produced by the City Attorney's Office (CAO). Our report sets forth a number of facts and figures regarding performance by staff of the City Attorney's Office during fiscal year 2006-2007 and comparisons to performance in prior years. The annual report reflects the CAO's efforts to provide quality legal services over the past year while identifying efficiencies in the face of ever growing City needs for legal services.

Policy Considerations: This report is consistent with the City's policy of measuring performance and requiring accountability of all City departments.

Environmental Considerations: CEQA does not apply where the matter before the Council does not constitute a CEQA "project." A report of this nature does not qualify as a CEQA project inasmuch as it can have no conceivable effect upon the environment.

Commission/Committee Action: N/A

Rationale for Recommendation: This report provides information and recommends the council provide direction if necessary.

Financial Considerations: This report does not currently have a financial impact on the City's budget.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): There is no discretionary expenditure involved in this report; consequently ESBD policies and procedures are not applicable.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
for Eileen M. Teichert, City Attorney

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ATTACHMENT 1

BACKGROUND

The Sacramento City Attorney's Office is a municipal law office providing a wide variety of services to its client, the City of Sacramento. This annual report reflects the work performed by the City Attorney's Office during the fiscal year 2006-2007.

Eileen Teichert was appointed by the City Council and took office in January 2006. This is her first full fiscal year in office. Her vision for the City Attorney's Office is reflected in new office organization which provides for specialized roles for attorneys to improve on client confidence and responsiveness, a new defined commitment to the client through specific attorney-client relationships with each department, and a new format for the annual report that focuses on the accomplishments of the City Attorney's Office in relationship to the City's goals as well as the goals of the City Attorney's Office.

The annual report contains a detailed analysis of the performance of each of our operating sections, and a discussion of administrative activities during the past fiscal year. For each section we report significant accomplishments, statistical information regarding workload, and comparisons with past performance. In response to significant changes in the organization of the City, the City Attorney's Office has changed its organization and redirected staff resources to better meet the needs of the client. The former Advisory and Special Projects Sections have been combined to form the Transactional/Advisory Section. Transactional/Advisory regularly provides advice to City departments and specializes in land use related work, along with ordinance drafting, negotiating and drafting contracts, and municipal finance projects. Our Code Enforcement Section has been renamed to more accurately reflect the evolving and varied workload and is now the Neighborhood Safety and Nuisance Abatement Section (NSNA). NSNA continued to face heavy administrative enforcement, civil litigation and a significant increase in criminal enforcement caseloads. The Litigation Section remains unchanged and a vital function of the City Attorney's Office. The Litigation Section continued to handle and successfully resolve a large volume of cases.

The City Attorney's Office touches on all aspects of City business. We play a significant role in the City's efforts to get the customer to success; promote safety, livability, and economic vitality; and promote the value of our co-workers and customers. We have included our Office Mission Statement and The City Attorney's Office Three Year Goals for the period 2006 through 2009 to guide us in providing the highest quality service to the City during the coming years.