



"Accountability"  
The Government Watchdog

**If you're  
not outraged  
you're not  
paying  
attention**

# Vanguard

Los Angeles CA Vol VI  
Week of January 9, 2011  
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## INVESTIGATE ANALYZE EXPOSE PUBLICIZE -- BRIBERY CORRUPTION FRAUD GRAFT

**Vanguardians Purpose:** To Inform, Educate, & Motivate for Involvement, Engagement & Advocacy

"I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them." – Thomas Jefferson.

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If you have given, donated or contributed any money, service or thing to a candidate for public office or a City Official on behalf of or for any other person or entity with the expectation of being reimbursed or paid back, now is the time to step forward. You could be charged with money laundering. Ask Council member Weaver why he had to pay a \$9,000 fine.  
**Contact Barry Allen at 818 243 1502 for information on what to do and who to talk with.**



- [Dishonored police chief Randy Adams.](#)
- New laws...SB 949 will require local police officers who cite drivers for traffic violations to issue the citations under the state Vehicle Code, ending the growing practice of citing motorists under local ordinances. The change will mean that all violations will be reported to the Department of Motor Vehicles, and drivers will face uniform penalties for violations.
- [Housing Authority Director Pleads Guilty to Bribery](#) George R. Robinson, 61, of Bel Air, Maryland, pleaded guilty today to bribery of a public official. According to a statement of facts, Robinson asked a contractor for a kickback of \$1,200 from the \$4,000 set aside for a project, which Robinson subsequently awarded to the contractor. While counting the money Robinson made light of the fact that the contractor had shorted him by \$100 on a prior occasion.

- **LOS ANGELES** — Newport-Mesa Unified Supt. Jeffrey Hubbard pleaded not guilty Monday to two felony counts of misappropriation of funds related to his previous job as schools chief in the Beverly Hills Unified School District. Judge Keith L. Schwartz set a preliminary hearing, where evidence will be introduced, for Jan. 18 in Department 142 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court's Airport branch near Los Angeles International Airport. The case will be heard before Judge Mark E. Windham. [More.](#)

- [Car allowances cost area cities thousands annually](#)

- **Maywood CA** -- Federal prosecutors and **FBI** agents are investigating allegations that an engineering firm doing business in Southern California paid officials in at least one city in order to obtain contracts, according to people with direct knowledge of the investigation.

An FBI spokeswoman declined to confirm or deny the investigation. But two federal officials with knowledge of the case told The Times that the investigation had been proceeding for several years and involved "multiple municipal agencies." Investigators have been looking at how the firm, AAE Inc., had secured contracts, the officials said.

Paul Philips, the former city manager in Maywood, said FBI agents interviewed him at least three times last year and asked about AAE and any ties the firm had with members of the City Council. He said the agents also asked whether he knew anything about the firm's dealings with officials in other cities, including Montebello and Bell Gardens. [For the complete LA Times article, click here.](#) [ED – Will Feds look a Glendale contracts on Parking Garages and Towing?]

- **Study Reveals Expectations of Campaign Donors Believe a Pay to Play relationship exists** "Research studies have also revealed that money donors do not donate large sums of money for altruistic reasons or affirmation of their political beliefs. Based on a survey of donors in the 1996 presidential elections, Francia and others (1999) report that 76 percent of the respondents stated that their primary reason for donating to political candidates was to shape government policies. A 2000 poll conducted by Lake Snell Perry and Associates involving 1,000 voters and 200 donors also revealed that 54 percent of the donors spoke directly to a major elected official compared to nine percent of the voters (Lake & Borosage, 2000, p. 2). Therefore, it is evident that money exerts a significant impact in determining which political constituents are heard by their political representatives. These studies demonstrate clearly that the donor class that represents only a minority of the nation has considerably more latitude in influencing government policy than the majority of the population in the nation." [More.](#)

**SAMUEL ADAMS: It does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority keen to set brush fires in people's minds.**

Vanguardians Sponsor

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**Vanguard** is published independently by *Vanguardians, Inc.* Advocating for Accountability– Our vision is to live in a community where all people can enjoy accountability, integrity, effectiveness and responsiveness from our government.

# 1 COMMENTARY

*You may agree or disagree with the views below. Feel free to comment on them. The commentaries do not necessarily reflect the position of Vanguardians*

## From the Publisher... SITTING IN THE CAT BIRD SEAT



**What a hoot...**the Glendale, CA City Council meeting of January 4, 2011. The first one of the year after a two week hiatus during which the LA Times dropped a bombshell about the ADI scandal that apparently involves elected and hired officials.

During the matinee session the City determined that they should give the Council sitting as the Housing Authority subpoena power to look for the smoking gun so they can dismantle it.

In the evening during Oral Communications it was quite obvious that Council supporters had been well scripted but not well rehearsed. Three or four of those speakers were City Commissioners who were protecting those who appointed them.

Those speaking chastised the media (LA Times, Glendale News Press and Vanguard), Al Hofmann and then characterized Mike Mohill as an attack dog. They very well could have encouraged those on the dais, especially John Drayman, to explain why those who remodeled his condo extended credit.

Mr. Starbird said that the construction wasn't shoddy. He ignored the issue of the cut rebar as that is embedded in concrete. In reviewing documents I didn't see an invoice for an x-ray machine or [ground penetrating radar](#). But then the City Manager has omnipotent powers that may include X-ray vision.



The City Manager did not wheel out the staff report showing the report on the 'inspections' of the various named properties visited by he and Stuart Tom, Hassan Haghani and Scott Howard.

After listening to Starbird extoll the virtues of ADI one would wonder why the City has engaged a lawfirm to investigate whether the City should sue to recover money and why the City is pursuing legislative subpoenas.

George Wolf was an engineer (EE) who worked for me and he coined the phrase, "Weasel Words," for comments such as made by the City Manager.

I look at all this activity as misdirection by the City Manager. What we all want to know is, "Did Glendale City Council member John Drayman ask for and/or receive special services, consideration, issuance of credit from and/or on behalf of Advanced Development and Investment, Inc. to remodel his residence on Srancrest in violation of the public trust?"

From the November 7, 2010 issue of Vanguard --

Open letter to Glendale City Council member John Drayman:

"Mr. Drayman – As you know, you have been the subject of the 'perception' of wrongdoing by allegedly suborning bribes in the manner of having your home remodeled to the alleged cost of \$200,000. The money for the remodel was allegedly provided by taxpayers through a conduit of an affordable housing developer. This matter could easily be resolved by inviting me and an associate over to see the remodel and review the invoices and proof of payment for the work and those invoices as well as any correspondence from your homeowners' insurance company regarding the alleged flood.

Please email your acceptance or rejection of this offer to remove the perception of wrongdoing to [info@vanguardians.org](mailto:info@vanguardians.org) Barry Allen"

And for those who don't understand campaign contribution expectations, [click here](#).

**The penalty good men and women pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men. PLATO**

***Most people want the benefits of an accountable government but are afraid to work for accountability or to support those that do often because they fear retaliation or are the beneficiaries of the largesse or corruption of government***

### IN SEARCH OF DISTINCTION



The headline news on the Glendale News-Press and the front-page story on the Los Angeles Times hit too close to home for many people. Good people, who've identified with the city, or their neighborhood, or the councilman they helped elect, responded in predictable ways, like most of us would when confronted with a reality not aligned with our self-assessment.

The story reported by local reporter Melanie Hicken indicated that a developer of low income housing was under investigation for defrauding the city of Glendale and many other cities in California. Apparently Salim Karimi and another executive of Advanced Development and Investment Inc. had bilked the city in construction overcharges. This claim, by itself, is reason enough to question the efficacy of the city management of HUD projects and the apparent lack of adequate oversight or control by the city council and city agencies of projects. Apparently, concerns raised as to quality, and costs did not get the traction those issues deserved.

Salim Karimi is not an unknown face to me. I had seen him several times at the Housing Authority meetings. At hundreds of meetings that I've attended in the last few years, I came to either observe the proceedings or promote three key good-governance concepts. One is an annual report on Quality-of-Life indicators, another is a scheduled review of city plans and objectives, and another is the establishment of a Project Management Office. Sometimes I get to see an interaction that would raise the hair on the neck of anyone who understands the underlying connections between councilmen and developers.

When there is a presentation by a developer, I like to sit at the rear of the council chambers. From that vantage point I can observe the councilmen glad-handing the developers as they call each other by their first-names, or give themselves a quick embrace with a pat on the back. Sometimes the surprise I've gotten was even more pronounced.

I've seen Salim Karimi put his arm over the shoulder of a senior city manager and walk him out along the center aisle as if they were long-time childhood friends reminiscing about the good-old days. But what happens during the project discussions when the public speak is much more revealing.

On July 8 of 2008 nearly two and one half years before the reporting of the abuse by the Times reporters several concerned residents and I made several pointed complaints about the ADI project – Vassar City Lights located at 3685 San Fernando Road. There were five public speakers who gave their assessment of the impact of the project on the local residents or taxpayers. The councilmen were listening all-right, but only to themselves.

Here is a summary of the complaints and concerns of the neighbors' living around the low income housing projects. Many of whom had come with petitions.

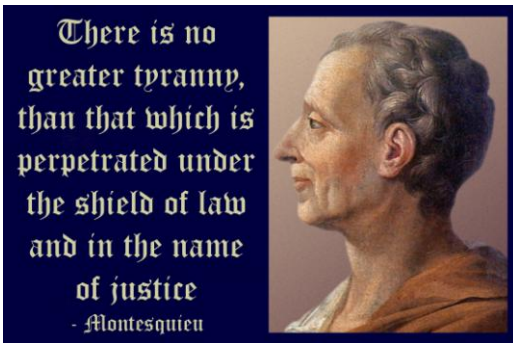
1. Inadequate and insufficient notification to the local residents of the scope of the projects.
2. Deep concern about the heavy traffic and the lack of sufficient parking.
3. Claims of "what appears as total disregard for the neighborhood."
4. Residents claim that they'd have to walk up-to four blocks to find on-street parking.
5. Concerns that load-bearing walls between two projects may increase car egress into Vassar
6. Evening traffic on San Fernando Road is often back up past Brand Blvd and difficult to cross.
7. Concerns that non-residents take short cuts creating heavy traffic conditions on residential streets.
8. Poor sight lines at intersections creating hazardous traffic conditions.
9. Neighborhood Services, Planning, and Public Works did not respond to local residents concerns.
10. Letters and petitions were submitted previously – to no avail.
11. Pedestrian traffic safety concerns needed to be addressed.
12. The mitigated negative declarations on the environmental impact can't be corroborated.
13. The reduction in parking (40 fewer spaces) would result in parking overflow into streets.
14. The developer's representative –Rodney Khan's objective in creating a sustainable project is expressed as, "to try" or to consider a solution but no definitive outcome measures are defined.

According to statements by David Weaver, the cost of each parking space at the time was \$35,000. Do the simple calculation and such a variance (reduction) would save the developer \$1.4 million dollars. Weaver's approach to the pleas by residents that the parking variance should not be approved was to take the opposite approach – To recommend to staff to change the city codes to consider fewer parking spaces for senior and low income housing units. He handed ADI a handsome gift at the expense of the quality of life of local residents.

Drayman started his comments with some humor stating that the only residents who did not sign a petition of complaint were residing at Forest Lawn, to the delight and chuckles of Weaver and other councilmen. Then he proceeded to dismiss the parking and traffic concerns of the residents by telling them that the proper forum was the TPC - Transportation and Parking commission.

Drayman echoed my concerns about providing individual smart water and electric meters at each unit. Such improvements would lower water and electric use, and utility costs to tenants while promoting conservation. But the verbal support by Drayman did not result in these outcomes.

The final vote by the Glendale City council, the Housing Authority and the Redevelopment Agency was unanimous for the plan as proposed by the developer. Each council member voted three times as each has a role in each of the agencies. Had the vote been made without the joint session, the political reform act of 2007 may have prevented the agency members from voting. They had been the recipients of contributions by ADI. Because the law does not apply to elected officials, the tactic is to approve these projects under the umbrella of a Joint council and agencies. It may pass the legal requirement, but it doesn't pass the ethical intent of the law.



The end-result was that the concerns expressed at the public hearing were generally if not summarily ignored. The whole intent of the Public Hearing process served simply as not more than a legal charade. If the city council was willing to ignore a public rebuke by concerned residents, why would they not be inclined to ignore the concerns by an inside city staffer when the negative evaluation is done behind the administration's doors?

I feel confident, that the residents that came to the city council last Tuesday probably experienced similar dismissal of their concerns at their local issues in Montrose in years past. They simply did not know the extent to which their experience and frustrations had simply shifted to the southern part of the city where the dismissal of local concerns is now the norm.

The distinction that supporters of Drayman and others at the city council need to acknowledge is in recognizing that the needs of some neighborhoods are not being met equally. The harsh realization that ADI has had favorable treatment by city councilmen at the expense of the Southern residents can't simply be brushed aside. The Federal probe into the relationship between councilmen and ADI has sufficient grounds for investigation. The meeting in the afternoon of July 8<sup>th</sup> 2008 just gives us a glimpse that much is taking place out of earshot of good people in the northern part of the city.

The Vassar neighborhood had no Mike Lawler to plead for less traffic congestion. They had no Mike Morgan to preserve the character of the neighborhood with lower densities and historic preservation. They had to Myrna Stanley to reduce the blight of huge residential buildings. They had no Stephanie Landregan to promote an urban forest in their back yard. They had no Bill Weisman to promote the traffic safety of children who would cross San Fernando Road. They never had the ear of the TPC on their parking and traffic concerns despite their petitions to staff.

Bad government happens to good people. In Glendale it takes the form of a stale-air balloon. Once you squeeze the problem from one neighborhood, it simply shifts someplace else to the glory and applause of those who benefit and the consternation of those whose quality of life is diminished.

See it for yourself by clicking the link below.

<http://glendale.granicus.com/DocumentViewer.php?file=0a3187a4916a6146d14c56c286addf88.pdf>

**HERBERT MOLANO** Click here [Glendale Today](#)



I discovered this article and was so impressed with the clarity and accuracy of its content regarding the fire culture that I request you present it in place of something I was going to write. Besides, the author is a much better writer.

It is interesting to note that in the article Mr. Walters cites a fire department back east whose members earn \$34,000 per year. That is in stark contrast to Glendale's entry level firefighters who earn over \$100,000 per year; with benefits and overtime it tops the \$200,000 mark.

### ***In small and large cities alike, firefighters have gone from heroes to budget bait***

BY: [Jonathan Walters](#) | January 2011

As a matter of political gospel -- and survival -- firefighters are sacrosanct. No matter the depths of a municipality's budget crisis, neither the firefighters' rank, pay nor benefits are touchable. There are no reductions in force for firefighters. And yet, in cities all across the country, that's exactly what has been happening. The men and women in red are becoming as vulnerable to budget cuts as other municipal employees.

The new landscape has clearly been shaped by the brutal fiscal conditions in localities. In an era of such severe economic uncertainty, high-level municipal officials -- elected and otherwise -- have not been shy about portraying firefighters as a group that has vacuumed up more than its fair share of municipal resources -- whether it's for salaries, equipment and firehouses, or for some of the most generous retirement packages offered by local governments today.

But other factors have contributed to the new view, and one is a question of efficacy. There's a growing discussion about whether -- in a world with fewer fires and more emergency medical-related incidents and automobile accidents -- firefighters are deploying resources to maximum effect.

### The Cost-Efficiency of Firefighters

Right now, the cost of paying a firefighter is foremost on city officials' minds. Take San Jose, Calif. Over the past decade, the cost of firefighter wages and benefits in the big California city has increased 100 percent, while city revenues have only risen by 20 percent, according to Michelle McGurk, a spokeswoman for the mayor's office. The average firefighter, she says, now costs the city more than \$180,000 per year. Moreover, the highest-paid employees in San Jose aren't high-level city managers -- or even the city manager -- but upper-level members of the city fire service. Firefighters with 30 years of service can retire as early as age 50, with 90 percent of their salary.

Painting firefighters as something of a pampered class -- well paid with retirement packages that would be the envy of anyone in either the private or public sectors -- would have been unheard of just a few years ago. Today, it's a widespread practice. Having spent a decade on a post-9/11 pedestal, the profession has been on the receiving end of more stringent scrutiny. Government officials and the public they represent appear to be taking a much harder look at exactly what they are buying when asked to spend bigger and bigger bucks on firefighters, firefighting equipment and emergency response.

### Fire Departments Around the Country Feel Budget Restrictions

In the wake of losing 23 firefighter positions in the summer of 2010 -- an almost 25 percent reduction in manpower -- Lowell, Mass., is now counting heavily on mutual aid from surrounding towns for fire suppression services. Firefighters in Muskegon, Mich., ratified a three-year contract that allows the use of more part-time firefighters. In Baltimore, firefighters were given the option of taking five to eight furlough days or risk losing 100 positions. In Elgin, Ill., a Chicago suburb, firefighters agreed to a "no raise, no layoff" contract for 2011 that also reduced its minimum staffing level from 36 to 34, saving the city a reported \$750,000 a year.

In Newark, N.J., firefighters joined in a court challenge at the end of last year to contest a city budget that called for laying off hundreds of municipal employees, including two dozen firefighters. San Diego instituted a "rolling brownout" system, whereby certain firehouses are temporarily closed -- an initiative that takes more than one-tenth of the city's fire and rescue complement off the street each day, saving the city nearly \$12 million per year. Meanwhile, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg recently unveiled a plan to significantly reduce municipal manpower -- a plan that includes closing some fire stations at night. He is also embracing a proposal by the New York Fire Department to charge motorists up to \$490 to respond to accidents and car fires.

For the most part, firefighting is still based on geographically distributed, fixed stations staffed by a set number of personnel who stand by and wait to be dispatched when needed. For the fire service to continue to perform in these leaner times, Wieczorek says, it is now going to have to actively embrace change -- and that's not something that comes easily to the fire service. "The old saying in the fire service," Wieczorek says, "is '100 years of tradition unimpeded by progress.'"

One of the most significant and widely recognized changes in the fire and rescue service is that on average, most calls to fire departments now are for medical emergencies and not fires -- running about 80 percent EMS to 20 percent fire in most jurisdictions where the fire service handles both. At the same time, most calls are either false alarms or not particularly serious. Yet too few fire departments have adapted very well to these realities. For example, San Jose still sends an attack pumper with a full complement of four firefighters to all emergency medical calls.

What drives firefighting in the U.S., for the most part, is long-standing practice, not good, current information on what's actually happening on the ground, including number of calls, response times, seriousness of the incident, geographical distribution and time of day, all measured in relation to the geometry of fire service manpower, equipment and deployment.

For example, in one jurisdiction that asked the ICMA to come in and do a thorough analysis of demand, resources and deployment, the ICMA team looked at the busiest five minutes the fire department had in a year. What did the team find? Even at its busiest moment of the year, the city still had seven idle units standing by ready to respond, with 28 available firefighters. Those are just the sorts of analyses -- in combination with the current budget crisis -- that have emboldened policymakers and budget writers to start asking tougher questions about what fire departments really need and how they do business -- and asking them to either hold the line on budgets or cut back.

Looking at both budgets and at more creative and data-driven ways to handle staffing and deployment are key. "Don't get caught up in the hysteria trap of believing that if you pursue things like brownouts and budget cuts that children are going to die and senior citizens will burn up," Wieczorek says. "That might happen, but only if we keep doing business in the same old ways."

[For the full report, click here.](#)

**BRUCE PHILPOTT**

## THE DEAL

### WAGES

- Fiscal years 2008–2009: increases equivalent to other city unions (1 and 2 percent)
- Fiscal year 2010: wage freeze; 3 percent raise to begin June 30, 2011
- Fiscal years 2012 and 2013: reopen talks
- Eliminates "good attendance" bonus

### STAFFING

- Redeployment or reduction by attrition of 31 positions
- Reduces holidays by one in 2010; defers one holiday per year from 2011–2013
- Eliminates the increased winter minimum manning for the next three years

### BENEFITS

- Flat fee for health insurance co-share
- Modifies pension benefits for new hires
- Reduces vacation by one week in 2011
- Eliminates clothing allowance and clothing issue for 2010

### SAVINGS TO TAXPAYERS

**\$16,000,000** (over 4 years)

**TAKE ACTION – GET INVOLVED – BE INFORMED – SHARE VANGUARD – VOLUNTEER**

# 2Shout Box

ED – Letters published do not necessarily express the opinion of Vanguardians, Vanguard News Service, the organization or Barry Allen. Names are used only when requested. Initials are used as there are people, believe it or not, who are concerned with retaliation or have issues before a legislative body. Letters may be published that are signed and are not hate oriented.



I just got back from taking a little drive around Glendale and noticed how to save the taxpayer about approximately \$500,000. There are about 1000 dangerous potholes on the city streets; they should be filled before there is a suit against the City. Especially the new cars that are smaller and more dangerous as they hit one of those potholes. Dave Bryce



- As I commented, off the cuff and facetiously, the Dais response to the Citizens was that they (Staff/Council) and ADI were working capably on behalf of Glendale, and that the LAT/GNP and specifically Al Hofmann were the dishonest/guilty ones for questioning ADI's and the City's integrity.

In reply to half the oral communicators asking if Glendale is on the verge of becoming another "Bell", City Manager Glendale of the



Starbird, stated that there was no shoddy construction by ADI. That Inspectors, at his direction, and insurance company inspectors on learning allegations, had revisited the site and found no evidence of substandard construction. [He did not address the recommendation by Staff to not fund ADI.] Further, that the reason Staff/Council [?] had been in favor of ADI, was due to ADI's ability/success in getting around the many rules and regulations involved in getting funding and permits for \$650M of "Affordable Housing", all over California. This was Starbird's pathetic attempt to deflect the charges of corruption that were alleged by the LAT/GNP/Vanguard. It was not responsive to the issue at hand. To me it was an interesting 'tell' of Starbird. He implied (to me) that ADI got things done by having "access and friends" in High Places. [Just what was alleged?] Review the video of the meeting, it should prove interesting; not only for who says what, but also what they don't say. The implications of both are significant.

Then Drayman attacked Hofmann personally and his e-mail requesting that people come to the meeting to express their opinions to the Council/Staff/Public (the sole purpose and rationale for having "Oral Communications"). Along with other personal attacks on the absent Barry Allen/Vanguard and Herbert Molano, and others of a like persuasion ["The price of Liberty and honest government is eternal vigilance"].

None of the Council Persons stated that they were being falsely accused by the LAT/GNP/Vanguard. They chose to remain silent or to attack the messenger(s) rather than the message.

As an aside, another observation: earlier in the meeting, regarding the late (by about 6 months) recognition by the GPD that the Tow Truck contract expired last year ("Who Knew?"), Councilman Drayman noted that the "Viewing Audience" may be wondering how many "Toes" the City of Glendale has, and how they may be counted. Suggest that Drayman consider first finding his "posterior" with both hands and differentiating it from just any hole in the ground and then making a count. It would [??] be faster than counting Glendale's "toes", or "tows".

The one positive of the meeting was that after a claimed eight months of hard work, by Staff, that the City Attorney, for the first time ever, has a report (with "Metrics") on the activities of his office.

This is the sort of report that Molano and others having been asking for, for almost a decade! So much for "Civil Servant Efficiency". A. N. Observer

- While I watched the live feed of the Tuesday city council meeting, I was surprised to see John Drayman, under city council oral comments, not speak up to defend himself from the charges of influence buying by ADI and then give his account of what happened with the ADI sub who worked on his condo. It seems that most people I talk to feel that it is very fishy that he got a sub who had never worked on a home renovation before, who was quoted in the paper as saying he was pressured by ADI to do it, and that he was still not paid for the work.



Why wouldn't Drayman simply produce the documents showing the contract for work and the method of payment? Instead, Mr. Drayman announced the death of the son of a well known and respected family in the Montrose area. I happen to know that family and they are private about their family affairs. I wonder if Drayman got their permission to make the announcement or was it done for pure political gain to divert attention from his failure to address the charges that he received favors in the ADI scandal. ADI is alleged to have received \$6.5 million more than they deserved for their work under contract with the Glendale city council, yet Mr. Drayman willingly voted against respected professional staff warnings not to.

Mr. Drayman, the questions for you to answer publicly are obvious. The next question is, are you going to do what is your responsibility as an elected official and provide the evidence to clear your name from this growing manure pile? The longer you wait to make your case before the public, the greater the suspicions of your involvement will be manifest.

If Mr. Drayman is not culpable as he claims, the best thing he could do is to call for an independent outside agency to investigate all allegations or suspicions of wrongdoing on the part of all members of the city council and make their report public. The air is thick with rot, choking the integrity out of the local government. Its leaders have a responsibility to clear the air before damage is done to the internal organs of our government. Mr. Starbird is unable to do it. He thinks ADI is good and successful and they perform superior work and they had huge overhead that only a few people like Mr. Starbird can understand. CJ.

- I am reminded of politicians who are able to inspire their base constituents to rally in defense of their controversial, possibly even illegal, activities. Look at Congressman Charles Rangel as an example.

Mike Lawler wrote his praises for John Drayman in the Crescenta Valley Weekly, January 6, 2011, "ADI is On Trial, not John Drayman". After all, John was able to bring home the "bacon" for Crescenta Valley: i.e. historic streetlights, landscaping and new sidewalks, the Montrose Harvest Market, etc. According to Lawler, "His presence on City Council has ensured that the Montrose and La Crescenta portions of Glendale finally have a voice, and are no longer the step-child to Glendale they used to be".

"I trust him, and I believe he doesn't have a corrupt bone in his body", continued Mr. Lawler.

The public be damned if they have the audacity to even question his hero, Councilman John Drayman, was implied by Lawler's article.

The fact that Drayman was living in a \$3,500 a month rental on Cedar St. while his primary house was being remodeled due to a "flood" in October 2009 must never have entered Lawler's mind as to how could a person with council pay as his only reported source of income (\$40-\$45K), afford this rent...according to Mr. Drayman's Statement of Economic Interest Form 700?

So why did Councilman John Drayman hire an ADI subcontractor, National Fire Systems and Service, a fire suppression installation company that is not in the home/condo renovation business, to renovate or remodel his condo? As reported in the LA Times, Mike Thomassian, President of National Fire, had never performed a residential remodel prior to Drayman's condo. Thomassian told the Times his hiring was linked to ADI, which he said had informed his firm about the job. "They didn't want to be involved in that directly, so they offered us," he said.

Drayman told the Times he picked National Fire in part because the company had agreed to let him pay over a period of months, a plan that he acknowledged was "not the norm" for a home renovation.

Where is Mr. Drayman's contract with National Fire to remodel his condo? Where is the loan note or payment plan worked out with Khachik Zargarian, the alleged money conduit for ADI? The loan didn't show up in Drayman's Form 700. Finally, where are the building permits and inspections required by the city?

Was the condo remodel a thank you note from ADI for Drayman's support for their public housing projects?

**Mike Mohill**

- Question re Drayman's flood, why wouldn't the homeowner's insurance policy cover the damage? Why wouldn't he get several bids before choosing a contractor? **ZTK**
- Thanks for sharing the CVW article...The following comments are from Vanguard editorial advisors...[ADI is On Trial, Not John Drayman | Crescenta Valley Weekly](#) Unfortunately, the man they'd like to burn at the stake is CV's own **John Drayman**. It seems to be an American pastime to knock heroes off their pedestals, even when they don't deserve it. In this



case, it would be a huge mistake, ...[Crescenta Valley Weekly - http://www.crescentvalleyweekly.com/](http://www.crescentvalleyweekly.com/) Written by Mike Lawler

Responses to Lawler article:

Lawler on Drayman article: Translation: "He may be a crook, but by God, he is our crook." **MD**

Thanks for sharing this. Rather makes the point. Say that you are honest ("I am NOT a crook.") and toss each group a few bones to keep them satisfied. Convince people that only you can deliver the 'goodies' for them. This is a successful politico strategy. **FN**

This guy is the ultimate Pollyanna. **JC**

Golly gee! I guess we'll see what the ████ and the district attorney have to say. Oh, and I'm so glad to learn that Glendale has been "turned around." **JS**

- The Chair of the TPC who spoke against Vanguardians at the January 4, 2011 Glendale City Council meeting during Oral Communications calling Barry Allen a liar or criminal certainly slandered you and I would suggest that you sue him for defamation. He certainly isn't aware that the issue of privacy of text messaging has yet to be resolved by the Court although it is on the docket of the US Supreme Court this session. Further he isn't aware that text messaging will ghost to other communications devices based on harmonics. It was apparent that his only reason for speaking had no relevance to the issue at hand. **Shark [ED – Apparently the Chair of the TPC can't recognize satire that is meant to dissuade Council members from circumventing the purpose of the Brown Act for open meetings by using texting. Text messages that came through on the 4<sup>th</sup> were: 'u r doin good job of alternating speakers' 'keep pickin on Hicken' 'LOL']**
- [What is happening with the New Horizons investigation where HUD money is missing? \[ED – Good question. How many issues can the city handle at one time? Ask the question at a Housing Authority meeting.\]](#)

### 3



### Public Information



"Just the facts"

"All truths are easy to understand once they have been discovered; the point is to discover them."- Galileo Galilei.

#### Agendas for the City of Glendale CA



Click to view the agenda [City Council](#) [Housing Authority](#) [Redevelopment Agency](#)  
Meetings at City Hall (CH) are in the Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor at 613 E Broadway.  
Meetings at the Municipal Services Bldg. (MSB) are in room 105 at 633 E Broadway.  
Meetings at the Perkins Bldg (PB) are in the Conference Room at 141 N Glendale Ave.  
Phone numbers are in area code 818 unless noted otherwise

#### Monday, January 10

Comm. Status of Women – 6:30 pm, CH 548-4844

#### Tuesday, January 11

Housing Authority – Redevelopment Agency 2:30 pm, CH

**Joint Meeting –RE:** Review of the Guidelines and Standards

for CDBG Funding Proposals – 2:30 pm, CH 548-4844

City Council -- 6:00 pm, CH 548-4844

#### Wednesday, January 12

Planning Hearing Officer – 9:30 am, MSB 548-2140

#### Thursday, January 13

**Special Meeting** – Parks, Recreation & Community Services  
Commission – 2:00 pm, City Council Chambers, CH 548-2000  
Design Review Board #1 --5:00 pm, MSB 548-2140

**Friday, January 14** No Meetings Scheduled

**Monday, January 17** City Offices and Library Branches Closed –  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday

## 4 Vanguardians

Vanguard archives are available by clicking – [Home Page of Open Government \(???\) in Glendale California](#)


People from all over LA County are asking for Vanguard and Vanguardians training. We are expanding our coverage of LA County activities to accommodate the needs of the community.

Vanguard is following these lawsuits and others: the 5 GPD officers; Rodriguez; Gillespie; Hayn; Hunter; Mendoza. The cases cited are from the Randy Adams regime and continue under Chief DePompa.

**VANGUARDIANS needs your Continuing Financial Support**  
**Please make checks payable to "VANGUARDIANS" Mail to: POB 11202 Glendale, CA 91226**  
 Your contributions are tax deductible. You will receive a receipt for income tax purposes

- The [Ralph M Brown Act](#) mandates legislative bodies to provide each person an opportunity to speak and requires that agendas are posted and meetings are open.
- The [California Public Records Act](#) (PRA) is the tool to get information about the operations of government.
- The [Political Reform Act of 1974](#) allows public access to the financial reports of public officials.
- [www.maplight.org](http://www.maplight.org) to follow the money trail from special interests to the policy maker

To become more involved in your community, to learn how to use these important tools, call 818 243 1502

**5**  **the Insider** is written by city employees that care about the way the City is run. As they are concerned about retaliation, their identities are secret. Vanguard provides them the opportunity to have this forum. The comments are their own.



Council keeps moving the Beeline report so that it will come up after the election as Weaver and Drayman are fearful they will lose a few votes. Here are some of the changes in the report:

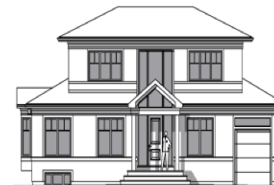
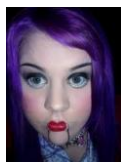
- Eliminate Route 13 that goes up Glenoaks Canyon.
- Eliminate the connector between Glendale Transportation Center and Burbank Transportation Center.
- Routes 1 & 2 will bypass Central and only use Brand, eliminating Galleria access.
- Eliminate Routes 5 & 7 on weekends.
- Start service one hour later (7AM) and ending one hour earlier (6PM).
- Reduce the frequency to Glendale Community College from 3 times per hour to twice.
- Increase fares.
- There will be fare increases for the Dial-A-Ride that will double the current rate.



Neighborhood Services took a complaint about the failure to obtain a building permit for 3481 Stancrest Unit 124. Code compliance officer Dave Simpson was scheduled to do an inspection on January 6, 2011.

**Your employee Association doesn't support you, DON'T support them. Instead, send your union dues to Vanguardians as allowed by the [Meyers-Milias-Brown Act](#) for LOCAL PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS**

**6 THE DENIZENS ON THE DAIS**



**Council is busy circling the wagons**

*"You can't win an argument with a Moron, an Idiot, or a Political Bigot" Kraft*

When it began?

Weaver*	Quintero	Najarian	Drayman*	Friedman
1997	2001	2005	2007	2009

\* Drayman and Weaver terms end in April 2011

The Lie-O-Meter moves from week to week showing the official telling the most outrageous lies.



# 7 VIEW FROM DAVIS



There were two major stories in Yolo County.

The first was that the city of Davis had a vacancy both at Mayor and the City Council created when Mayor Don Saylor was elected last year to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors and he was sworn in on [Monday morning](#).

This week the Davis City Council had two main jobs. First they set up [the process by which the new councilmember would be appointed](#). Second they had to name a new mayor.

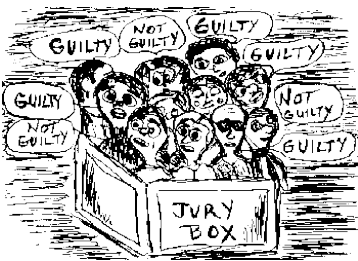
The obvious choice to replace was the mayor was to elevate the Mayor Pro Tem, Joe Krovoza up to Mayor and then name a new Mayor Pro Tem. However, Councilmember Stephen Souza, wanted to be Mayor himself. He quickly recognized that he lacked the votes for that, so he concocted a [Mayor-sharing scheme](#). His colleagues voted against that unanimously and Joe Krovoza became Mayor.

Then after Councilmember Sue Greenwald (no relation) moved for Rochelle Swanson to become Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor Krovoza seconded that motion, [Souza again advocated for himself](#).

"Now I have to speak to myself," Councilmember Stephen Souza began in one of his most ill-considered moments on the council, of which there have been several noteworthy moments. "Before my motion was to the body as a whole, so now I'm going to speak for myself." "Twenty-three years of service to this community, numerous evenings I have given up," he said. "Every one of those bodies I have served on, I have done it fair and equitably, and always treating everybody who was a member of that body with respect," he continued. "In 2008, I was 381 votes short of being the top vote getter, that's pretty close," the Councilmember continued. "I think all of that service, that closeness of an election - in spite of knowing that the Mayor Pro Tem doesn't have but a ceremonial position and title - I would like to have it be part of my service to the community." "My guess is that you're going to be the top vote-getter one of these days, Rochelle, and you will get the Mayorship," he continued. "I don't know what's happening in my future. All I know is that I'm here now and I know I have another 16 months of service that I can give this community. I don't know if I'm running for reelection." "So I would plead to you as my colleagues to at least give me the opportunity, to at least give me that title," he concluded.

It was a pathetic display that put his colleagues in an awkward position and the worst part is it was all about himself and getting a title to put by his name, it was not about the community.

The second story was the DA's prosecution of the [Galvan Brothers](#), who had been badly beaten by West Sacramento Police in 2005.



They were charged with resisting arrest and assault on police officers. But three juries, most recently in December, had hung. The DA was attempting to try them for a fourth time.

Finally this week, [they announced what everyone else already knew](#), "After the third trial, the Yolo County District Attorney's Office conducted a careful, thorough, and deliberate review of the case and the three jury trials," the statement read.

"We conducted an analysis of all of the evidence presented in each of the cases, reviewed conversations and correspondence with jurors from all three cases, and examined whether any additional evidence or approaches to the case would result in a guilty verdict," it continued.

The statement added, "We determined there is sufficient evidence to establish proof of each defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt; that 27 of the 36 jurors who have examined the evidence have agreed with us that there is proof beyond a reasonable doubt as to most counts; and that the officers acted within the confines of permissible use of force based on the circumstances and the defendants' actions."

[Jurors who had hung the first and second trials spoke this week](#). Frances Flores, who was the lone juror to hold out in the first trial, spoke. She stood her ground, in the face of severe criticism and scorn from her fellow jurors, whom she thought seemed more interested in getting home for Thanksgiving than giving the case serious consideration.

"I am extremely elated that court proceedings are over for the Galvan brothers. I truly believe the fact that the brothers were minorities that was the main reason for such cruel treatment and judgment," Ms. Flores said. She described the court process as both "excruciating" as well as "very emotional." "There were a lot of [jurors] wanting to convict at a very early part of the deliberations," she said.

Back in February, Jeff Austin was the lone holdout in the other 11-1 vote in favor of conviction, in the second trial.

"I was very happy to hear that the DA has decided to dismiss charges against the Galvan brothers," Jeff Austin told the Vanguard on Thursday. "As a juror in the second trial, I was concerned about the conflicting testimonies and that the evidence presented did not corroborate the stories told by the officers. This left me with a lot of doubts about the officers' testimonies about what happened that night," he continued.

"I felt very strongly that we could not convict because of that and I am glad I held to that decision," he said. "Quite often we hear that

one person cannot make a difference but in this case, having one lone dissenter who held to his/her beliefs in the first trial, resulted in the second trial." **David M. Greenwald, Executive Director, [The People's Vanguard of Davis](#)**

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## 8 BELL RINGER

### LA Times got it wrong



Did you happen to read the LA Times article on Robert Rizzo, "How Bell Hit Bottom"?

Despite claims to the contrary, these folks were looking to loot the city from day 1. The people the writers interviewed all benefited from Robert Rizzo.

I always said, "they've always been looking for a 'jackpot'".

Rizzo was hired in 1993. Can't remember the month, but if he was hired in January, it took less than 10 months for the "godfather" like deal-cutting to begin. Rizzo was their man. Not only did they know about his previous history, it's what qualified him. Janssen, a Vice Principal of the local high school, is not being truthful. He should have been removed from his school post a long-time ago as it is a low performing school. He was not because City Hall liked it that way. How else were they going to suppress the up and coming leadership? Spoil the youth? No parent involvement in the school? How else do you explain the booster club being phased out?

Contrary to Goffard's simplistic read of the situation and Janssen's claim in the Times they didn't just stumble onto Rizzo and they got him "on the cheap" because the real pay was being sought on the back-end. It was engineered - and Bramble probably left for reasons he's not disclosing.

Back then, some in the community fought against that casino and a number of things occurred and aligned, including a moratorium, at that time to prevent it's (re)opening. These guys have never been public servants, and the cops were part of the apparatus. Bell was one of the first in California to get a gaming license from the State.

Jackpots, that's why they all gave money to Pedro Carrillo back in the day. He was casino friendly. And, probably remains, casino friendly. There has been talk about Carrillo's gaming debt that almost brought his family to its knees. Sandra Pizano, from the Salinas Valley, is his wife and a politician with family money to go along that.

Residents in Bell will be hard pressed not to use those licenses to gain revenue for the city in the near future, but I do not think any of its candidates know about the licenses.

They've been schemers most, if not all, of their lives, and they've been looking for jackpots. When the casino angle dried up, they moved onto bonds, contracts, deals, financial instruments and accounting trickery.



Like magicians, they distracted from the real deal by paving streets and redoing the few parks that exist. They bet the poor would be impressed, especially when surrounding cities weren't running the schemes they were. And they were right. That's why there's still this nonsense talk about how Bell was better than Maywood, Huntington Park, and Cudahy. Bell wasn't better. They just dressed her up in the most expensive dress ever.

As one who learned to walk in Bell, I know bell was never Mayberry. That's nonsense. Pete Werrlein is about 80. Back in the day, he did time for having an illegal ownership in the Bell Card Club. In 2008 he was convicted of running a private casino near Lake Arrowhead. The jackpot machines were probably Bell's very own but were declared and "certified" destroyed by San Bernardino County, if you can believe that. His life is riddled with these schemes, looking for jackpot after jackpot. He's still in Bell because it's been his fiefdom and these guys, George Cole, Robert Rizzo, George Bass, Rolf Janssen, George Mirabal, and the police department have been allies. His gun shop is still in Bell and under investigation with federal authorities for being the number 10 gun shop in the nation where its guns are found in Mexico's illegal activities. Pete is still situated in the old chamber of commerce calling the shots on who the candidates should be and who is going to win. He has made a secret endorsement to the POA and its candidates. And, they all knew about this and more about Pete.

And the old-timers foundation is based on the same model, do well on the front end and get the payoff on the backend.

These guys are incorrigible. This is a story of how crooks looted the poor. It is a story about how the only whites that didn't take flight stood to exploit. Werrlein is the Genesis and his "nature" animated this fiasco. **DANNY LOPEZ**

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