



"Accountability"
The Government Watchdog

Vanguard

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THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE

Vanguardians Purpose: To Inform, Educate, & Motivate the people for their Non-Violent Involvement, Engagement & Advocacy in local government.

OPEN LETTER TO GLENDALE CITY COUNCILMAN JOHN DRAYMAN:

You are an elected member of the Glendale City Council and you are running for reelection on April 5, 2011. You recently have come under suspicion of allegations involving unethical and possibly criminal conduct. Until now, you have decided to have loyal followers speak on your behalf claiming the charges to be false.

You have an alternative, an obligation to be straight forward and provide the information needed to clear the air your supporters claim. If you have nothing to hide, you should be forthright to validate your supporters' assertions.

You have a duty to the Glendale voters to reveal the facts surrounding the charges. It is your ethical responsibility as an elected official who claims adherence to government transparency.

However, there is one caveat; if you are under criminal investigation it is entirely understandable for you to continue your present position of keeping completely quiet on the subject.

You can:

1. Produce all contractual agreements between you and your contractor showing the scope of the work and payment arrangement.
2. Produce the minutes of your HOA board meetings where the flood damage issue was discussed, including insurance issues. State whether you filed a claim with the HOA or a private insurance company that covers interior damage and property loss.
3. Produce building permits or give an explanation of why you were not required to obtain such permits under city codes.
4. State who referred you to the contractor who performed the work on your renovation. Tell us why you selected National Fire, a company that has not done an interior renovation before. Your statement in the paper claimed you chose them because the owner, uniquely, was willing to work out a schedule of payments.
5. Do you think that a council member should vote on transferring millions of taxpayer dollars to ADI, now a known fraudulent prime contractor, while taking thousands of dollars in campaign donations and getting what appears to be a sweetheart deal from one of its subcontractors who stated he was 'forced' by ADI to perform the work, but assured by ADI that he would be paid?

RE: 3481 Stancrest
January 13, 2011
Hi Mr. Allen

Regarding your complaint re: the above address filed last week, I have prepared this statement:

We took the information for the service request. There are a number of issues at play here. The city's research and investigation are ongoing at this time and the service request will remain open until such time as those issues and the assertions in the service request are resolved.

Sam Engel
Neighborhood Services

You could pull this information together in an hour or so and present it to the voters of Glendale. It is the responsible thing to do. Anything less will continue to erode your standing as an elected official going into the reelection campaign.

S// Glendale Registered Voters and Stakeholders

If you have given, donated or contributed any money, service or thing of value 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.

Contact Barry Allen at 818 243 1502 for information on what to do and who to talk with.

“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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Weaver and Drayman – More questions than answers



[Councilman: Robert Rizzo ran city of Bell | VIDEO](#) -- Councilman Lorenzo Velez, the sole member of the Bell City Council not facing criminal charges, testified Wednesday that former City Manager Robert Rizzo called the shots and even told council members how to vote on most issues.

ENCINITAS — Former Mayor Dan Dalager pleaded guilty to one misdemeanor conflict-of-interest charge in a Vista courtroom Feb. 9. He was sentenced to pay a \$1,000 fine and serve three years’ summary probation.
The charge stems from Dalager’s acceptance of heavily discounted kitchen appliances in 2009 from Aztec Appliance owner Matthew Gordon who had business before the council several months later. Gordon was cited for building an unapproved rock wall that encroached on the public right-of-way in front of his home on Neptune Avenue.

State law prohibits elected officials from accepting any gift or combination of gifts from the same source in excess of \$420 in any one calendar year. Dalager did not report the appliance gifts in 2009 on state-required 700 disclosure forms. Despite having admitted to failure to report a \$100,000 loan on a mandatory state disclosure forms for public officials and allegations of impropriety in his business as a consultant at a local bank in charge of soliciting new accounts, the district attorney only charged Dalager with one count of violating the Political Reform Act.

“It is unfortunate that an Encinitas council member put his personal interests above that of the people he was elected to represent,” said former deputy mayor and current councilwoman Maggie Houlihan. “This is a very sad day for Encinitas.”

Dalager, a two-term councilman, lost his re-election bid this past fall. During the campaign, Dalager maintained his innocence when questioned at candidate forums and in media interviews. He said that although he “goofed” up by not reporting the loan, he did not intentionally do anything wrong. He could not be reached for comment.

"I want to thank the public for keeping this issue in the forefront," Councilwoman Teresa Barth said. Read more: [Coast News Group - Former mayor sentenced on conflict of interest charges](#)

[Santa Monica](#) -- While Santa Monica city officials were worried last year that they may have to tap into a "rainy day" fund to help close a projected \$13 million budget deficit, it turns out they had nothing to fear after all, ending up with a budget surplus of \$7.9 million at the end of 2009-10, City Manager Rod Gould said.

[With a mind to protect affordable housing and taxpayers, White House plans to wind down government housing support](#)

"The Obama Administration delivered a report to Congress that provides a path forward for reforming America's housing. The Administration's plan will wind down Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and shrink the government's current footprint in housing finance on a responsible timeline. The plan also lays out reforms to continue fixing the fundamental flaws in the mortgage market through stronger consumer protection, increased transparency for investors, improved underwriting standards, and other critical measures. Additionally, it will help provide targeted and transparent support to creditworthy but underserved families that want to own their own home, as well as affordable rental options." The *Wall Street Journal* comments, "All of the administration's proposals envision a scaled-back role for the government. One includes a new government backstop of certain mortgages under a federal 'reinsurance' model, while another would propose a more limited backstop that would scale up primarily during times of economic crisis. The third option proposes no such government backstop beyond existing federal agencies such as the Federal Housing Administration."

What Public Officials Need to Know About Gifts and the Law The laws that apply to public officials are varied and complex and the gift laws are among the most complex. For public officials, the concept of a "gift" is much broader than the concept of a "present" or something tangible given. The concept of a gift does include tangible items, but it also includes more intangible gestures. Violating the state's gift limit rules is punishable by civil and criminal penalties, so public officials need to familiarize themselves with these laws. [\[FULL STORY\]](#)

New Bill Package Focuses on State Oversight of Local Government Finances -- Controller John Chiang announced his sponsorship of a five-bill package to give the state, and specifically the Office of the Controller, more oversight of city, county and special districts finances. [\[FULL STORY\]](#)

[Citizen's Legal Action Halts LA City Council's \\$1 Billion CRA Steal](#) *Brown Act legal action by local Hollywood businessmen causes Council to forgo voting on motion to move nearly \$1 billion in public funds away from Governor Brown's attempts to recoup the money for schools, fire, ambulance, police and other endangered local services. State is watching the largest CRA pot of gold moved around like a peanut by LA wheelers and dealers.*

A taxpayer "Cure and Correct" letter regarding Brown act violations at the CRA/LA Special meeting of Jan. 14, 2011, today (2/8/11) halted City Council's attempted consideration on motion transfer almost a billion dollars from the CRA to the City Council and then to an as yet undetermined "shell" entity in order to keep it from Governor Brown's attempts to use the funds for much needed City services for those taxpayers, like schools, fire, police and ambulance service. The item before the City Council today was based on the Actio of Jan. 14, 2011 and should that action be found in violation of the Brown Act it could be nullified and any actions taken based it would be nullified as well.

Governor Brown and State officials are keenly watching what happens in L.A., the State's biggest City is sitting on the biggest CRA pot of gold, nearly a billion dollars. Other cities throughout the State are working overtime to try and slide their CRA riches out of reach of the State as well and, as usual L.A. is the bellwether. Whether this billion dollar game of "three card monte" between just turned 40, Council President Garcetti, and the veteran 70+ Governor Brown is successful is yet to be seen.

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.

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



Last Tuesday's Council meeting was quite a trip. Listening to the naivete of Ms Friedman extolling the leadership training supplied by the Independent Cities Association which are those cities that have their own police and fire departments. She went on to tell us about the leadership qualities in Chief DePompa who is touting his Zero Tolerance policy that has six officers on administrative leave for things like joyriding in a black & white, beating up a motorist, DUI and having sex with an alleged domestic abuse victim. Then there are the 10 police officers who are suing the City for numerous issues that good leadership would have alleviated.

Good leadership prevents the need for zero tolerance. It certainly wasn't the 11% pay raise the cops received. It is the lack of good leadership, which begs the question of where are the role models? Certainly not on the Council or in Management.

As examples, Mayor Najarian predicted what speakers would say and he was wrong each and every time. Councilmember Drayman, in his well orchestrated charade, put City Manager Starbird and GWP Czar Steiger on the hotseat as part of the election silly season to make Drayman look good and continue to avoid answering the questions about his lack of integrity.



Then the Council voted to not transfer water surplus to the General Fund next year - FY2012. They were consistent in continuing to break the law by not returning the illegally transferred money to the GWP while opting to wait for someone to sue the City for the return of the money.

Ms Friedman again stepped up to the plate and said we could expect more rate increases because other agencies are raising their rates to the City. Unfortunately she didn't connect the dots to payroll, pensions and excess people.

Then there is the leadership nexus between Council member Weaver and the GWP that gave tax money to his personal non-profit; gave product to Miss Asia while the Police Department gave personnel to 'help out' the pageant; the owner of the Royal Palace Banquet Hall, where the Miss Asia apres party was held, got a \$40,000 façade improvement at the behest of the tax payers. Not to be forgotten is the \$9000 Weaver paid to the FPPC for violations of the political reform act. Also those in the 'know' are familiar with the sexual harassment of a former Management Services employee. Weaver represents the epitome of 'leadership'.

Then Council member Drayman had a flood at his condo in October 2009 and contracted with a Fire Systems installation company that is an ADI contractor and I understand is now a partner in one of the affordable housing ventures according to a source who requested anonymity. Or at least proposed to get his \$1.4M investment in ADI out by virtue of a 'piece of the action'.

Drayman closed his business several years ago after not paying his BID assessment and just last month he acknowledged that he is making up to \$100,000 a year from a business that just started in January 2010. That business runs out of a Montrose post office box and thus avoids paying a fee. Now as a leader he has taken advantage of his position by not bothering with getting building permits for his remodeled residence while the Code Enforcement Administrator, who is protected by Civil Service, refuses to send out an inspector.



Drayman also disclosed that he has a 6% interest note for a personal loan of an amount not exceeding \$100,000 from Steve Arzoomanians whose address is the same as that of National Fire. What is perplexing to me is that one would presume that financing arrangements would be made in advance of the work being done and in January of 2011 the 4 month loan is still outstanding and the matter is still under investigation by the City, among others. Is Mr. Drayman in default on the loan? Was the loan recorded with security for the loan being his condo?

As the criminal court testimony rolls out in the Bell Corruption trial we are seeing how the City Manager manipulated an unsophisticated City Council. According to a former Glendale City Council member who requested anonymity, "What is coming out of this hearing is no different than the way the City Manager manipulated us."

We have heard the denial by the Council that Glendale is not the City of Bell and that is true. They are different cities but the indifference by the voters that allowed the corruption in Bell is what we are seeing in Glendale today. Some voters have been intimidated by the Councils' attack dogs. Just look at how Council and others have attacked distinguished law professor Harry Zavos.

Fortunately there is an election coming and voters have the opportunity to just say no and kick out two of the present elected officials and replace them with others that are looking out for the best quality of life of the stakeholders.

"Politics is entertainment. It's a sport. It's for the well groomed and well heeled. The impeccably dressed. Party animals. Politicians are interchangeable." - Bob Dylan

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

EDUCATING LAURA



It is no surprise to me to find sitting council members from time to time repeating the talking points that appear to be handed down to them by management staff. Many times the talking points show a surprising ignorance of the city's most basic financial indicators, at other times, the self-assurance with which council members deliver their pronouncements seem as theatrical and pompous as those of a professional wrestler -- think Ara Najarian.

Last Tuesday, several members of the public were trying mightily to wrestle the truth out of the sitting council members. All we were able to squeeze out of them was nothing more than a mighty wind. What an embarrassing stench that was.

At the heart of the argument was a simple concept. The city of Glendale must comply with the state constitution. A secondary argument was that the city does not comply because it locked itself into huge salary and pension benefits agreements with the employee unions.

The passage of the pension changes in 2001 giving police and fire retirees up-to 90% of their last highest annual salary as their yearly pension (for the rest of the retirees' life) has resulted in city pensions greater than \$150,000 dollars per year for some while many others got over \$100,000 dollars. The preponderance of these retirees will make more money in retirement than they ever did while working for Glendale.

The councilmen who passed the 2001 ordinance for Police and Fire and the 2005 for the rest of the employees, voted in amazing ignorance of the horrific impact that these changes would have on the city's future financial obligations.

From what I can assess by watching the evolution of councilmen in office and reading the documents upon which they make decisions, is that they generally don't do their homework. They don't bother to read, let alone study, the implications of what they are about to approve. I was a teacher for many years, and I can read the faces of those who simply want to skate their way into a passing grade or give a ridiculous rationale of why it is they could not finish a project. It is no different here.

In the case of Laura, it will be years before she'll be in a position to understand that the city management staff has a vested interest that conflicts with good and prudent city policy. To many of the entrenched elite, the city's tax is part of a zero-sum game. Either they get the money or the taxpayers' get capital improvements. The money goes to their pensions, or the stakeholders get parkland. As such, the city council has transferred hundreds of millions of dollars of taxpayer wealth into the coffers of the city's unions and their CalPERs retirement system.

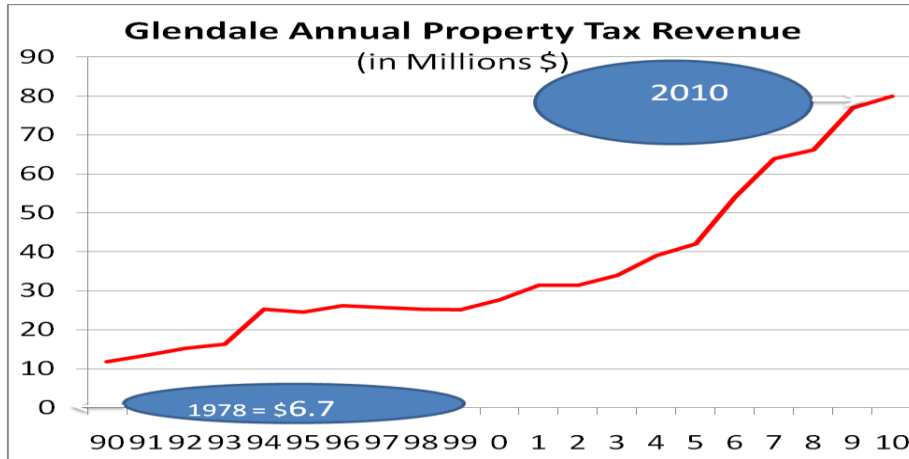
If you watch last Tuesday's council session on video, you can see Laura Friedman follow carefully the talking points given to her by the city manager. The talking points referred to the property tax rate that the city had to keep in 1978 when in June of that year proposition 13 approved by the voters. All cities, including Glendale, had to revert back to the tax rates and assessments in effect in 1976. According to Ms Friedman, "We kind of got the shaft in Glendale."

She says, "We." But here is an elected official who never participated in any budget study sessions prior to being elected. She never participated in any GWP meetings. She never attended sessions where the quality of life indicators

of the city were being discussed. But what is so very, very, sad, is that she has never bothered to check if the talking points given to her by Mr. Starbird bear any significance or relevance to the truth.

The exact words given to her by Mr. Starbird were probably accurate, but irrelevant. The history of the revenues from property taxes collected in Glendale shows a truth that will surprise the councilmen present and retired. Since 1978 the rate of change in the inflation has been 234% but during the same period the change in the rate of the property tax increase has been a whopping 1100%. Here is the graph.

Glendale's tax went from \$6.7 million dollars in 1978 to over \$80 million dollars annually this past fiscal year. These



revenues, along with utility users' tax revenue and other fees transferred to the General Fund have been insufficient to deal with the massive surge in pension benefits and payroll increases.

At the heart of the financial debacle the city is facing is the element of ignorance. The city management thrives on the ignorance of the city council members, who in turn, speak confidently on what they think they know, and then pass it along to an unwary population. Our common ignorance has caused us dearly.

Assessing knowledge is much safer than assessing motivation. If we assume that Ms Friedman has the public good as her motivation, then her ignorance can be corrected. But if we are wrong, then there is nothing to stop the city unions from trashing the welfare of the city in their pursuit of their insatiable appetite for taxpayer's dollars.

HERBERT MOLANO [Click here Glendale Today](#)

THE EMBRACE

THE COLD REALIZATION OF THE ULTIMATE BETRAYAL

The views off the Great Barrier Reef are as close to an underwater paradise as we can imagine. It is the idyllic place to celebrate oneness with nature. It is not surprising, then, that a loving couple, newlyweds, would want to celebrate their joined purpose of a life together in a place where all that is right with the world, a place where azure seas, a thriving sea-life, and the radiant color of the coral reef envelops your senses.



In that majestic place, a few dozen feet below the surface, a lovely blond scuba diver approaches her husband. The love she feels for him could hardly be felt stronger at any better place, at any better time, than immersed in the warm waters of the sea with her heart consumed with love. She reaches out to embrace the love of her life. He, in turn, embraces her firmly, and slowly begins to shut off the air of her scuba tank.

This is not fiction. This is the story of Christina Mae Watson whose last loving embrace was returned with the ultimate betrayal. Within a few days, she went from betrothed to betrayed. The reason for the murder, according to Australian authorities, was the insurance money. A few weeks before their wedding, Daniel Watson had requested that she place him as the sole beneficiary. He had apparently also insisted that she increase her coverage.

Christina Mae had a presence of mind to recognize her fiancé's request as troubling. She told her dad. Together they decided to lie to Daniel "Gabe" and proceed with the marriage.

That is the puzzle of the story. Not, murder with the objective of getting someone else's money; that is not so unusual for people raised in cultures where self-interest trumps nearly all values. What is puzzling is how we detect significant signs of something gone awry and simply write it off. We erase it from our consciousness. It is too incomprehensible to justify. How could father and daughter agree to lie to her fiancé that the insurance policy was changed according to his wishes, yet proceed with a wedding to someone they distrusted? How could they take measures to protect the money

and not the life? Could it be that we let the cultural pressure to retain the image of the perfect wedding, the perception of the perfect couple, and the image of romantic love, crush the warnings that our reasoning mind tells us? Or are we too practiced in pushing such thoughts out of our mind? He couldn't possibly be planning a murder.

To the general public, to the preponderance of the population, such dastardly lack of conscience is unimaginable. We cannot comprehend that such evil can be so near, so palpable, yet so invisible behind a handsome face or friendly smile. But, scientists are now clarifying the picture for us.

The evil that religious people recognize, the barren morals that an ethicist ponders, is the personality disorder that psychologists study. At the center of that damaged mind is a void – the lack of empathy. Psychologists have studied it for decades. But, now neurologists are beginning to shed light on its causes.

They have narrowed the location of empathy to the amygdala. These are two almond-shape structures deep in the brain that form an essential part in the limbic system. It is the storage of emotional memories. It plays an essential role in the ability of people to empathize with others.

As we now understand about so many human conditions, heredity and environment, both, play into its development. It's another example of the interplay of nature and nurture. According to studies of the brain and behavior, the larger the size of the amygdala, the greater the empathy. Psychological theories of personality disorders tell us that a child with a hereditary predisposition to unconscionable behavior could grow up to behave with a modicum of normalcy if raised with affection in a nurturing environment. But raise that child in cold, demeaning, or violent surroundings, and we have almost guaranteed the creation a ruthless sociopath.

For the rest of us, about ninety five percent of the population, the behavior of the sociopath is beyond our comprehension. We are born to trust and are raised to be conscious of the feelings of others. But we also lose our defenses. We are at the mercy of the man or woman without scruples. We can't imagine that the colleague who feigned his friendship, voiced his affect for humanity, spoke to us with such deep, resonant, and melodic words, is nothing more than a charlatan willing to say and do anything for his own selfish objectives.

We are suckers to the crafty and smooth-sounding words of a lying politician, the confident assurance of a sly attorney, the concerned look of a scheming mortgage broker. Their immorality is unfathomable to us. Yet we can see their victims regularly in the nightly news. But, we are wiser now. We can make sense of evil when we see the image of that lifeless body – the beautiful diver lying motionless twenty fathoms deep - arms outstretched.

HERBERT MOLANO Click here [Glendale Today](#)

AN IMMORAL CONSTRUCT

Daniel Watson, who murdered his wife during a scuba dive, could have been raised anywhere in America. He could easily have been raised next door. What if Daniel had gotten away with the murder of his wife and came, filthy rich, to live in a tree-lined at a Glendale neighborhood? Say, at El Arbolita Drive, would he reflect our values?

It has often been said that we deserve the government we got. As difficult to accept as that claim is, it does seem as if the men we chose to keep in office reflect a shallowness and artificiality that stem from a new culture that has strayed too far from its roots. We no longer seem to see as essential, that striving for the public good, or our common interests, leads to greater happiness and a worthwhile life experience. The people we've elected to office seem cut from the same cloth as Daniel Watson. We've come to learn about why many people are attracted to the easy money and the accolades that holding a public office bestows. How would Daniel's life turn out, had he been successful in his murder and sought out a new identity in a new city? This would be his story.

Daniel Watson's insurance proceeds were truly substantial. He could now afford an expensive and impressive sports car; he would soon buy a large home for himself. The car would come first to impress the real estate agent. As he drives up his driveway a neighbor stops by admiring his choice of wheels and a mutual admiration chat would ensue – one neighbor trying to out-impress the other.

Daniel needs to be admired. He is already planning his next move. Though he never joined a social service organization, he'll join one where he can rub elbows next to the elite of the city for just a few hundred dollars a month. Soon he gets to meet the top of the food-chain of the city's governance and administration. Daniel is collecting names that he could use to impress others as he seeks ways to invest his newfound wealth.

His neighbor, a newly divorced lawyer, invites him for a couple of drinks at his home. Later that evening, Daniel arrives to admire the Rolls Royce parked on the driveway, then moves on to join his neighbor for a cocktail by the pool. There is an easy conversation lined with a competitive spirit. Each tries to outdo the other as they tell each other about their trips

abroad. Daniel shares his opinion on how much better the airport in Amsterdam is to the one in Frankfurt. His neighbor expresses how lucky he was to find two rare diamond-studded cufflinks found at a specialty jewelry shop at the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul.

Neither is married. One is a young widower who claims that his wife suffered an unfortunate sporting mishap. The other is a newly divorced attorney who claims that his wife could not possibly understand the values and dynamics of his extended family. Both drink a toast to this new comradeship of vibrant men, victims of life's series of unfortunate events. But Daniel must go. He needs to take wall measurements for a new sub-zero freezer he's ordering along with a new built-in wine cooler and new kitchen floors. He complains profusely on how difficult it is to find honest and capable technicians nowadays. His neighbor concurs, but he knows a fire captain with an encyclopedic knowledge of the latest in modern kitchen appliances. He offers to connect Daniel.



Both men are in desperate need of the adoring looks from the fair sex. Daniel has been looking on the Web for a high-end love connection. He finds a picture of a pretty woman with outstanding earrings, wearing a seductive look, an ample cleavage, and partly wrapped in a long fur coat. She wants a millionaire. He wants a show piece. Daniel wants to be held in high esteem at any cost. He deserves to be held in high regard by all who meet him. A tall, blond and attractive woman bedecked with jewelry, has the latest Prada handbag hanging one arm, and the other would be lovingly wrapped around his. They are sure to be the envy at the next social event to which his neighbor has invited him.

At the gathering, a who's who of the city's elite is chatting away in competitive teams. Daniel is enthralled with the conversation of his group. A contractor is telling them of his latest exploits. He had recently concluded a nearly four-million dollar contract to build a swimming facility for the city. Laughingly, he tells in confidence on how he'll make at least a third of that in pure profit. The brandy is loosening his tongue. Abruptly, Daniel's neighbor comes along and pulls him aside. He wants to share an inside scoop about the latest legal caper. Apparently, the Supreme Court made a ruling on eminent domain freeing cities to forcibly take the property of one person and sell it to another. The legal logic escapes him, but what's important to this lawyer is that the opportunities for deal-making have just increased.

He is a chum with one of the regions wealthiest commercial developers. Daniel is impressed. He asks his neighbor about any other real-estate opportunities where he can turn a quick profit in a year or two. His neighbor tells him of some parcels of land on a hillside. A housing developer is about to announce that he intends to build one hundred homes. If Daniels buys adjacent land quickly, he could double his money in a short time. If Daniel buys in, there is a substantial finder's fee with which to reciprocate. The plan is simple but very effective.

A land developer, through his lawyer, will make a quiet announcement such that tree-lovers and neighborhood preservationists get a hold of the rumor. Those environmentally conscious residents will gather building a common outrage against the intrusion, the traffic, and the decimation of the hillsides. As the formal announcement is made, the headline in the newspaper will carry both the developer's plan and the interview of the protesters. The community will come together to fight the development. Daniel's friend will propose that the city buy the property instead. The price will be at least three times what the developer paid for it.

The three of them are now laughing in approval. The only incidental cost outside the original land purchase are some renderings of the development, just enough to make the plan credible, and a few promises to the city council members. The residents will eat it up. A designated council member will talk up a storm on the outrage he feels about the terrible consequences to the hills and green space. Daniel's neighbor has an inside track on how all this works. He is planning to buy a much newer car. His Rolls Royce is too old to be credible he now believes. His stature deserves a higher image.

On the drive home, Daniel tells his gorgeous date about his new rich friends and the plan to make millions more. She laughs approvingly. To her, here is a man of the world about to make it even bigger. They walk into the house and as she steps into the kitchen; her high heels make a loud sound on the new marble floors. She looks at the grand kitchen, and though she can't cook, she is easily imagining a gathering of admiring friends. She could be happy here. Daniel is well connected and if things don't work out, well, there is his new bachelor neighbor next door.

She moves closer to check the new granite counters and high-end kitchen range. As she attempts to lift the heavy-gage steel of the cooking grid, she chips her fingernail. Mildly exasperated, she tells Daniel about how hard it is to find either a dependable manicurists or quality nail polish. Daniel, drink in hand, smiles, and nods in agreement. She is so much like him. He looks around slowly and breathes in deeply the finery of his surroundings. He takes it all in. To him, this is the ultimate culture. This is the life he's always deserved. It was all worth it. He's arrived.

HERBERT MOLANO Click here [Glendale Today](#)

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

2 Shout 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.



- Bravo on a fine set of presentations Tuesday regarding illegal actions (acts of "nullification" raise some interesting issues?) by our City Council. While Quintero came close to proving a 'rationale' for their acts, the rest, including Frank, chose to avoid, deny, and misstate facts and their responsibility(ies). As always they bring in new data not available previously, and seek to demean and vilify persons having both concerns and legitimate facts and issues to present to them and the public.

Attorney Howard, after six months, finally found a way of weasel wording a way out of an illegal and untenable position, 'wherein he and maybe the Council and Staff weren't really responsible', but they would attempt to avoid any such 'minor' errors and omissions in the future. "We weren't wrong before, but we won't be wrong in the same way again."

Tuesday night without a doubt, in addition to speaking for yourselves as individuals, you Herbert James Molano, Harry Zavos, and Bob Getz, also spoke forcefully for me, just another 'Citizen' of Glendale. Thank you all. Our Council has/is doing a poor job of representing us, "the Citizens". Chalk it up as points made and a victory won. Bravo!

Our Council and some of the staff came across as both fools and knaves. It must "go with the territory". They tried misdirection and avoiding the issues with half truths and mischaracterizations verging on defamation. But the facts and truth showed them as the losers they are. ACC

- I read an OP-ED piece by Michael Teahan in the January 31st News-Press. ("We have our own local character-assassination team. Every week I receive an e-newsletter from a local open-government advocacy group purporting to work for my interest with special powers granted by the Internal Revenue Service to ferret out corruption in any quarter. Though the IRS really doesn't grant powers, Vanguardians and Barry Allen have spun it that way.") What about that? Can you explain those powers? KGB [ED – Actually we can. But that is a story for another day. As you may be aware, the Glendale News-Press has no policy regarding the veracity of their columnists, according to GNP Editor Dan Evans. The writer was handpicked by John Drayman to run for election in 2009. However, Teahan's priorities changed.]



3



Public Information



"Just the facts"

From: Barry Allen
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 9:05 AM
Subject: CalPERS projections

For the Cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena what will be the employer portion of annual payment projections for each of the next 10 years, in dollars as opposed to percentage increases?

From: CalPERS
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 9:59 AM
To: 'Barry Allen'
Subject: RE: CalPERS projections

We cannot predict with any precision what future employer pension contributions might be because of unknown variables in the future. Employer contributions are adjusted every year and set as a percentage of payroll. Recent

investment gains and losses are the biggest determinant of future employer contributions. Following good economic times, employer rates tend to go down. Conversely, following bad economic times, rates trend go up. Given where we are in the economic cycle – emerging from a deep recession – we can expect rates to stabilize in the short term. If the economy and financial markets continue to improve we can expect future rates to trend down. In terms of actual contribution amounts, they depend a great deal on the size of the payroll. **For example, if a city pension plan has a 15 percent employer contribution rate that does not change over 10 years but the size of the city payroll doubles because of a larger city workforce and pay increases during that period, the amount the city contributes will double, even though the employer contribution rate has remained stable. However, if a city reduces its workforce and cuts worker’s pay, the contribution amount would go down because of a reduction in payroll.** [ED – Emphasis added.]

From Vanguard Advisor:

The city’s payroll increase of 30% over the past decade may cause a much larger amount of contribution as stated in the last several sentences of the CalPERS response. The major change that occurred during Weaver and Quintero’s time on the Council made those changes unsustainable. Certainly the City Manager was convinced that the cash cow would continue putting out the green and then he would continue to be the hero. But he was wrong.

“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, 2nd 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, February 14

Commission on the Status of Women – 5:30 pm, CH 548-4844
Please note earlier start time

Planning Commission – 5:00 pm, MSB 548-2140

Community Meeting – RE: Proposed Renovation of Brand Library – 6:30 pm, Brand Library Recital Hall, 1601 W. Mountain Street, Glendale- 548-2051

Tuesday, February 15

Special Meeting – Glendale Redevelopment Agency – 9:00 am, CH 548-2005 RE: Review of the proposals for redevelopment of 123 W. Colorado and 230 S. Orange Streets, Part of the Town Center Project. 548-2005
 Housing Authority -- 2:30 pm, CH 548-2060
 City Council -- 6:00 pm, CH 548-4844

Thursday, February 17

Arts & Culture Commission – 2:00 pm, CH 548-2000
 Design Review Board #2 -- 5:00 pm, MSB 548-2140

Wednesday, February 16

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

Monday, February 21 Federal Holiday – Presidents’ Day; all City offices and Library branches closed.

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 for 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 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.



The City Council is represented by Parrots that 'parrot' the words of the City Manager. For those of us that see this every day we know that not one of those that sit at the Dais has ever had an independent thought since being elected. *Bird has been very good for us and we would hope that the same bunch gets re-elected. We support them through our PACs and they support us with tax dollars.



6 THE DENIZENS ON THE DAIS



An indictment contains allegations that a defendant has committed a crime. Every defendant is presumed to be innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

"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 expire April 2011

7 For Current and Future Politicians

Questions we ask of all candidates:

- What is your agenda?
- If you are elected what do you want to achieve?
- Why did you choose to run for public office?
- What are the three major issues facing City Hall?

Questions for the incumbents---

Mr. Weaver can you explain why you show your over \$8300 1993 loan that has no balance on your 460 form? And can you explain why Salvatore Gangi spent over \$238 for lunch in December 2010? With a starting balance of \$172.94 you have quite a way to go to raise money. Are you counting on Caruso?

Mr. Drayman – can you explain the high cost of storage that you have been showing on your 460 form and what happened to all that money left over from your election in 2007? Some was spent on the storage and more for your phone bill. Your starting figure is \$181. Are you counting on any of your support coming from 'sweetheart' deals?

Email info@vanguardians.org to subscribe to the Weekly News on issues that impact you. **Vanguardians encourage and support advocacy, involvement and engagement with government. Vanguard is intended for personal use by recipient and forwarding without change to recipient's personal email list. Vanguardians is a 501C3 educational non-profit corporation. Contributions are tax deductible.** Vanguardians does not use commercial fundraisers. **To ensure you receive Vanguard**, please add our email addresses info@vanguardians.org, vanguardweekly@gmail.com and ba@fieldworks.net - to your address book or Internet Service Provider safe list. **Annual subscription for email \$50, by US Mail \$75, Newsstand \$2 per issue.** **To unsubscribe -- reply with the word 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.** Copyrighted materials used with permission. ISSN 2158-7280 ©2011