



"Accountability"
The Government Watchdog

Vanguard

Los Angeles CA Vol VI
Week of May 22 2011

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TIME TO SPEAK UP

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

Weekly Glendale Vanguardians Meetings are coming back

It is our intention to invite a city official each week to engage in a dialogue.
Consensus: Fridays, 8AM – Foxy's Date will be announced soon.

HELP WANTED

The Glendale Select Committee is looking for financially and business successful entrepreneurs that have reached the pinnacle of their careers and are ready for serving their community where the community comes first, where technology is embraced, where integrity is maintained and where vision for the future of Glendale is foremost. Apply to Select Committee c/o Vanguard.

Glendale Stakeholders Needed

On Wednesday the Glendale City Council will be deciding your future and the future of Glendale. City services are at stake, Pensions and Payroll that are growing every year. Increases in fees are being recommended. One department alone is recommending a \$107,000,000 projected revenue based on fee increases. You need to be involved. Show up at City Hall Council Chambers at 9AM Wednesday.

"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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Dark

Editor's pick:

Herbert Molano's commentary on 'Dacey Dais..' is just one of my picks this week.
pf



Glendale CA – Vanguardians, a local government watchdog, filed charges on Friday with the LA County District Attorney and the California State Attorney General regarding John Keith Drayman former City Council member, City Of Glendale for:

Conspiring with named Glendale City employees and a member of the public to deprive the People of the State of California of property taxes based on accurate reassessment of his homestead.

Conspiring with named Glendale City employees and a member of the public to deprive the People of the State of California of Building Permit fees.

Conspiring with named City employees and a member of the public to avoid compliance with State and Municipal Building Safety Codes putting the People of the State of California in harm’s way.

Copies of the complaint are available to media.

Civic Watchdog Training

Vanguardians has received a grant for materials and facilities to provide training and educational materials for training in the Sunshine Laws to prepare watchdogs for public advocacy in California local government. Contact Barry Allen at 818 243 1502 or email him at info@vanguardians.org for more information.

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



Exciting week in local governments everywhere as the realization of the unfunded liabilities for pensions, healthcare and workers compensation become more acknowledged. Vanguardians is getting more requests for how people can become involved and engaged with their local government.

In response to a report by a Vanguardians advisor that went out to the ‘select’ advisors list [Ask how you can get email updates on breaking and relevant news] was this comment: “In my opinion, stuff like this drives me crazy. I saw Andrew Breitbart on television, and what he said about the teachers in Wisconsin was demeaning, disgusting, and just plain wrong. What he says about unions is wrong. It’s NOT the unions that are causing the problems. The unions are doing what unions are supposed to do, which is to get the most and the best for their memberships as they can. If the city officials are either so incompetent as to not know how to say NO and as to NOT know how to take a strike and win, why blame the unions? If the city officials are so corrupt as to trade wages and benefits for campaign contributions, why blame the unions? The unions are NOT what got us into financial trouble all over the country. But the incompetent and corrupt goons who call themselves city and county officials are. I’m not condoning the interception of e-mails, but listening to the accusations from the likes of a Breitbart means absolutely nothing to me. I am tired of having our pockets picked by the ultra right while they blame everyone else for being the cause of problems of which they are the very roots.” The proceeding remarks were in response to: “Nick Berardino Admits to Intercepting Emails in Dispute with Costa Mesa City Council. [View here.](#)

So let’s take a look at Glendale: Mayor Friedman held an inquisition of several nominees to city boards and commissions, nominees that have never been charged with nor questioned about any crimes. Yet Friedman, when presented with damning evidence of fraud being perpetrated by a fellow city council member, sat on her hands and didn’t question the evidence.

When Friedman had the opportunity to support council member Manoukian about having open contract negotiations for employees, she along with Quintero, Weaver and Najarian bowed to the 'look' from union president Stavros who heads up the firemen that get unlimited overtime and voted. 'No'.

Friedman also curtailed comments from the public by allowing only one, three minute comment by a speaker during an eight hour budget study session relying only on staff input.

More on Drayman – A busy week for Drayman supporters who may begin to realize that their hero has some flaws. His week started off with a knock and notice search warrant served by some cops that followed with a lawyer meeting and some questioning by Det. Garcia of the Glendale Police financial crimes section. Det. Garcia has not returned my phone calls as I wanted to provide some additional information about the crime.

Meanwhile the GNP reporter Melanie Hicken caught the cops off guard when she asked about the Drayman investigation. That left City Executives scurrying for a plausible story. They came up with, "early stages" which is flawed because search warrants come toward the end of the investigation not before as all who are familiar with the 4th Amendment are aware.

The PD didn't share from which entity Drayman allegedly embezzled. Pundits said the Montrose Shopping Park Association while others, especially city employees, said the Unity Fest. My sources tell me both were Drayman victims.

While City Hall is in lockdown insiders are coming forth with scads of information.

Then Ms Hicken hit the pages with another story about Condo-Gate. Seems as if National Fire filed a lien against Drayman's ownership interest in his condo for an amount of \$98,222.34. That was in April.

Drayman told us through the GNP that he paid for everything except \$10-\$30K of a disputed subcontractor bill. He also told us that the work for which an after-the-fact permit was obtained was only \$30,000. I ask you, "Which lie is the right one?"

I filed the first of three complaints regarding no building permits in January. To date there has been no inspection.

A telling sentence from Ms. Hicken's article was this, "[Federal authorities have subpoenaed records for the remodel as part of the investigation, according to a subcontractor who declined to be named.](#)" I spoke with the unnamed subcontractor several times over the past months and he shared with me the information about the subpoenas and authenticated the 64 photographs of the work being done on Drayman's condo.

Let's see, the following agencies are looking into the Drayman affair: The Glendale Police Financial Crimes section, the Federal authorities and I forgot to mention the State Attorney General and the Los Angeles County District Attorney. Soon to be added to that list will be the FPPC for Drayman's failure to file a leaving of office Statement of Economic Interest, the IRS for failure to report income, the Los Angeles County Assessor for failure to report the total renovation costs and more.

Drayman must be concerned as to who will help pay his attorney fees. I certainly hope he does not try to extort money from those he alledegdy sold his vote. Cause we'll be watching.

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

SIX HUNDRED MILLIONAIRES



If you happen to attend the next budget study session take a good close look around you. Nearly every city staff member in that room will have a multi-million dollar pension. How they came about that golden retirement is the subject of this story.

Back in 1993 city employees, except for fire and police, retired on an assured pension that was up to 60% of their highest salary beginning at age sixty. Someone retiring then with a salary of \$80,000 having worked for thirty years could retire on \$48,000 per year adjusted for inflation. The calculation

went as follows: 2% for every year of employment. So thirty years of employment times 2 would give 60 as the rate of retirement compensation. Even by today's standards \$48,000 per year adjusted for inflation would be quite a comfortable retirement sum.

But how could the city council justify a change (in 2005) so that employees could retire with 75% of their last highest pay at age 55, and police and fire personnel can retire with up to 90% of their highest salary at age 50? (April 2001.)

Blame it on the bubbles. The stock bubble of 1998-99 and the Housing bubble of 2005-2006. It seems as if the city management waits for an economic asset bubble to peak so that they can persuade the city council to permanently adjust salaries and pensions upward. It appears that is just what they did in 2001 and 2005. But the 2001 increase in pension benefits to police and fire employees really tops the cake. It was roughly a 40% increase in benefits in one fell swoop. The city manager has claimed repeatedly that in April of 2001 they received assurances from CalPERS that the city's contribution towards the pension would be zero because the value of the assets (calculated in 1998 valuations) was so high. The asset valuation from CalPERS for pension contributions lags by about two years. So the city manager based his opinion on some document with outdated figures handed to him by CalPERS and told the councilmen that any increases in the benefits would cost the city taxpayers nothing.

CalPERS investments are broken down roughly as follows: 65% in stocks 20% in Bonds 10% in Real Estate and 5% miscellaneous. Anyone who remembers the dot com bubble knows that in 2008 and 2009 the asset valuation on technology stocks were in the stratosphere held up by nothing more than rarified air and wishful thinking. But do council members think independently? Do they even read the newspapers, or watch the evening news, or talk to anyone with stock investments? It is astonishing that just two weeks after getting elected, councilman Quintero and Yousefian, would join Weaver, Manoukian and Gomez in signing on to a dastardly agreement based on sheer stock valuation fantasy despite the news in the Los Angeles times.

"Nasdaq 2-year low" "Dow falls 204 points" February 22, 2001

"California Economy signs of cracking" "Shift tied to National slump" March 24, 200

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"Falling stock market is behind the first decline in individuals net-worth in 55 years" March 14, 2001

"Markets Hammered to start 2nd Quarter" April 3, 2001

"CalPERS loses 9 billion as stocks fall" April 14, 2001

In April of 2001 nearly every day, the LA times had a story relating to the imploding stock market and the desperation by the Fed to lower interest rates to prevent a recession. CalPERS, just like the average Joe, had invested heavily in Nasdaq, and by the time the Glendale city manager persuaded the city council to grant police and fire their hefty pension increases, those investments were being reduced to fumes.

The city management, along with the city employee unions, has a vested interest in the reports and analysis given to the city council. Putting it bluntly, those reports are biased in their favor. I've been told that senior fire and police representatives continually put pressure on the councilmen to approve the pension increase. The operating word was harassed or intimidated. It was a combined effort with the city manager and his staff continually giving false re-assurances and the senior safety employees pressuring the council members to comply or else.

Ten years later (two weeks ago,) as Councilman Manoukian pushed for open labor negotiations, we could see directly the same tactics being applied by city manager Starbird and the Police and Fire association leadership.

The sky will fall if we let the public in on what is taking place behind closed doors. The hyperbole by Jim Starbird on why the city council should not have public hearings even on past agreements (MOUs) bordered on hysteria.

Pull off the uniforms of the fire and police department employees and they are no more endowed with moral character than average Joe on the street. They too have plenty of their brethren behind bars for nefarious conduct. The city manager cannot logically claim that these men are self-sacrificing public servants when they are ready to jump ship for a higher pay elsewhere. That has been the crying logic for giving them higher and higher pay for less and less work. They'll go elsewhere if we don't.

But where would they go? Every city in California is moving rapidly towards a two-tier system where new employees will get the lower pension (Similar to that existing prior to 2001.) If they leave the city of Glendale for another city, they'll be at a lower pension rate. But the jobs are drying up. Cities are now recognizing that padded payrolls and bloated staffing can't be sustained any longer.

Police, fire and management staffs have soaked the taxpayer to unimaginable levels. It is time for a generally unaware public to get to know the real financial damage police and fire unions continue to perpetrate on taxpayers and utility rate payers in this city and across the state.

The real question here is whether these council members have any moral fiber left. If not, we can simply replace them with bubble head figurines that we can place behind their name plate on the dais. The city manager can simply walk over and “ping” each one for a “yes” vote any time he wishes.

HERBERT MOLANO Click here FOR [Glendale Today](#) New content

DICEY DAIS WITH ARNOLD AND MILDRED

Ever watch a congressional hearing? Ever see the congressmen up on their perch? You never see the head of the EPA, or the Federal Reserve, or HUD sitting next to them, do you? So why do we have an arrangement where the elected city representatives sit right along with the city manager and the city attorney? Why are the rest of the city top bureaucrats sitting up there high above the public?

It must be cozy up there. The city’s hired help rubbing elbows right along with the elected representatives, sending each other email messages, winking at each other, finishing one another’s sentences. It’s a game we’ve all come to recognize as the city’s managers and employees behave as if they are the ones to dictate the show. They sit up there and we, the public, must come hat-in-hand to beg for consideration. It is as if the housekeeping help is sleeping with the boss and wearing the mistress’ clothes.

How do I know this? Besides watching the current physical layout where council members and city staff sit side-by-side as co-equals, the staff pretty much is telling the city council what to say and what to read. Take the official city financial reports. They are an exercise in power by the master artisan teaching his inexperienced novices.

For years the city budget displayed prominently the pie charts of the overall city budget. But since two years ago the city manager mandated that the council and the public would only see a pie chart of the general fund which is only about 20% of the overall budget.

For years (1990’s) the city’s one-inch budget displayed side-by-side comparisons of the key budget figures with up-to six years of comparisons. Since Jim Starbird came to Glendale all that has changed. No more clearly displayed trends will fill an easy-to-read budget. Instead we have a bloated 2.5-inch volume with hundreds of pages of fluff.

For years the city prepared a budget summary that allowed anyone inclined to learn about city finances (including the occasional council members) to get a quick overview of how departments spend on salaries, benefits, operations and capital improvements. Apparently that was too much disclosure and the city manager has instructed the Finance Department not to publish it (since 2008).

For years the city’s statistical reports indicated the number of sworn police officers and civilians in the GPD, but not anymore. We now get “Authorized Positions” A vague number not related at all to the actual number working and on the payroll. So we can no longer verify the actual trends in police staffing and my requests through the CPRA (public records act) are delayed or obstructed.

For years the city’s Workforce Demographic reports detailed the number of mid-management employees (up by 40% from 1998 levels) But last year the city management decided to remove that category and effectively prevented us from evaluating their claims about cutting down the workforce.

These past few weeks during the budget study sessions the city management has put on a dog and pony show full of fluff and misdirection. It is the same every year as they avoid having to come clean with regard to the huge increases in pension and benefits that are sinking the city’s finances.

It’s all cozy up there on the dais. Top management and council members in one immoral private relationship. It’s like watching the Arnold and Mildred saga unfold on television. Except that the love-child of this relationship is a bastard city budget paid for by all the taxpayers unaware of the screwing taking place inside the people’s house.

HERBERT MOLANO Click here FOR [Glendale Today](#) New content

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

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.

John Drayman and Embezzlement? How can this be? Should we now add the entire Glendale Police Dept to the growing list of city Gadflies? I can hear the yammering now within the walls of Myrna Stanley's residence coupled with Nancy Kent, Michael Teahan, Mike Morgan, and Bill/Sharon Weisman. They are collectively crying "say it ain't so, say it ain't so". Our King, what has happened to our leader, King Drayman? I have a suggestion to ask of Vanguard. Please take up an immediate collection of Kleenex tissues to wipe the buckets of tears shed and collected off the faces of Morgan, Teahan, Weisman, Kent, and Stanley (aka the followers and Draymanite peasants). One day all the hermits of Glendale will rise from under their respective rocks and will realize that Vanguard was right on target the entire time. At that time, you, Barry Allen, can just sit back and remind the residents of Grimdale that you told them so. You definitely told them so. DSW

Drayman the embezzler – what is new about that. Just talk to the MSPA merchants and the vendors at the Sunday Harvest Festival. They all knew. His \$300,000 condo renovation courtesy of the taxpayers. How much did he get for his hand in TJs, Laemmle, Komar (does he have to share with Quintero), Modern Parking, Hopkins, and so much more? Check out his threads. My friend John was living like the rich and famous and he is neither. Soon he will join the poor and infamous. 'Mark Lassiter'

I wonder if the cops will search Drayman's storage facilities and I wonder how soon the IRS will be knocking on his door. I wonder how soon John will tattle on his colleagues. GK

Does the embezzlement issue have anything to do with the Unity Fest where Drayman and his partner were collecting cash from the merchants and turning over less than they collected to the City? If so, I would call that stealing from the City. At that same event Drayman and his school teacher partner were loading up their car with fruits and veggies from the vendors. Is that legal? ACC

This following is a series of email exchange between retired police chief Bruce Philpott and the Glendale Fire Department

Sent: Monday, May 09, 2011 9:09 PM **To:** Stefani, Stuart

Captain Stefani, as a follow up to your response to Mrs. Weling's email regarding funeral processions, would you please answer the following question: Why not have a policy that sends only off-duty firefighters with reserve equipment to funerals honoring the sacrifice of a firefighter. Sending on-duty first responders in effect closes fire stations for hours. During that time a major medical event could occur to one of the tens of thousands of people in that fire station district. It adds minutes for an out-of-district engine company to arrive. Your department has protested the installation of speed bumps in the past because they slow emergency medical and fire vehicles that can place the public at a higher than necessary risk due to slower response times.

What better way to honor a fallen firefighter than to have all Glendale uniformed firefighters who attend the funeral procession be off-duty and driving reserve engines and trucks. Since there are twice as many firefighters off-duty than on-duty, there should be little problem finding willing participants. The prevention of slow response times is a high priority in your department. Amending the policy to require off-duty personnel to not only attend funerals but many other civic and

ceremonial events will keep critical first responders in their neighborhood fire stations capable of the quickest response possible. Doesn't the public deserve this slight policy change and be better protected? Bruce Philpott



From: Stefani, Stuart To: brcphilpott1 Cc: Godfrey, Gregory Sent: Tue, May 10, 2011 2:44 pm Subject: RE: Funeral Processions

Mr. Philpott,
Thank you for your comments.

Captain Stu Stefani [ED- 2010 compensation \$182,618.71]
PIO/EOC Coordinator Glendale Fire Department 421 Oak Street Glendale, CA. 91204
sstefani@ci.glendale.ca.us



Sent: Wed 5/18/2011 11:33 AM **To:** Stefani, Stuart **Subject:** Re: Funeral Processions

Captain Stefani, I sent you the following email a little over a week ago that posed a question on an important policy issue regarding public safety. To date I have not received a reply, only an acknowledgement that you received the question. There are a number of concerned citizens who were copied on the email and they would also like to receive a reply. I look forward to your response to my question.

Sincerely, Bruce Philpott



Sent: Wed, May 18, 2011 2:49 pm Subject: RE: Funeral Processions

Mr Philpott,
I am Captain Stefani's supervisor and he has forwarded me your email.

We are more than willing to provide you with any information or data that is required by the California Public Records Act (CPRA). However, you ask a question that requires an opinion and opinions are not covered under the CPRA.

Greg Godfrey, Battalion Chief [ED- 2010 compensation \$198,810.73] Glendale Fire Department
421 Oak St. Glendale, Ca. 91204



From: brcphilpott1 To: GGodfrey@ci.glendale.ca.us Sent: Wed, May 18, 2011 4:07 pm
Subject: Re: Funeral Processions

G. Godfrey, my question has nothing to do with an opinion; it has everything to do with your department's policy on assigning on-duty emergency response personnel to ceremonial activities that remove them from critical public safety assignments. I offered you an alternative policy that required some evaluation and critical thinking before responding. I expected an informed response and am a little surprised that you would hide behind the public record laws to avoid an answer to my question that has no relevancy to the public records laws. My question has to do with an important and profound policy issue that can save lives and reduce injuries. The GFD should not have any trouble defending its policies relating to how it provides services to the public. In the future, will the public have to submit a public records act to engage a member of the GFD in a discussion about any of its policies? Wouldn't that be inconsistent with open and transparent government?

I have no interest in personal opinions because they are not relevant to my question. You have a policy on assigning on-duty first responders to ceremonial events and you have been given an option that enhances public safety by reducing response times. I can only conclude that in your reluctance to state and argue your policy you don't feel comfortable trying to defend it. Using the public records act as an excuse not to answer my question is not an acceptable response.

Should a policy that cannot be defended or justified in public be allowed to remain in effect?

I am, once again, requesting a written response to my question that has important public safety outcomes.
Bruce Philpott



From a recipient of the dialogue: As always, Bruce, your logic is sound and impeccable...no wonder the "first response" is to dodge your question by passing the buck, either to a subordinate or to the shielding force of bureaucracy. That he did not address your question honestly and convincingly speaks volumes for the policy and the thinking of those behind it.

3



Public Information



“Just the facts”

Councilman Manoukian established a webpage where readers can get data that is not easily obtained www.manoukian.us

National Fire files \$98,222.34 lien against former Glendale council member John Drayman’s condominium adding to his dilemma of search warrants being served on him to search his condominium for evidence of embezzlement from a local Montrose organization. Drayman has ties to the Advanced Development & Investment (ADI) criminal investigation.

Provide all contracts, amendments, addenda’s and writings between CoG and Modern Parking Inc for the City Parking Structures. Provide all communications from and/or to any official in the CoG from or to any person affiliated with Modern Parking since January 1, 2008.

Records responsive to your request are available for inspection in the office of the City Clerk. Please note that certain pages have been redacted pursuant to Government Code section 6254.7(d). [Lucy Varpetian](#)

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

City Meeting Calendar 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

Note: Watch for an announcement of a Parks Commission special meeting toward the end of the week.

Monday, May 23

Historical Preservation Commission – 2:00 pm, MSB 548-2140
Transportation & Parking Commission – 6:00 pm, CH 548-3960

Tuesday, May 24

Housing Authority – 2:30 pm, CH 548-2060
Redevelopment Agency -- 2:30 pm, CH 548-2005
Special Joint Meeting –RE: Financial Update and Adjustments to the Adopted 2010-2012 Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Budget – 2:30 pm CH 548-4844
City Council -- 6:00 pm, CH 548-4844

Wednesday, May 25

Budget Study Session – 9:00 am, CH 548-4844

- **Police**
- **Fire**
- **Human Resources**
- **Finance**
- **City Clerk**
- **City Treasurer**
- **City Attorney**

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

Note: Due to the Budget Study Session which will be televised live, this meeting will be taped for replay at a later time.

Civil Service Commission – 5:00 pm, CH 548-2110

Thursday, May 26

Public Hearing – Verdugo Workforce Investment Board RE: WIA Plan Modification #12 –8:30 am, Verdugo Jobs Center, 1255 S. Central Ave., Glendale. (818) 548-3324

Budget Study Session – 1:00 pm, CH 548-4844

- **Glendale Water & Power**
- **Information Services Division**

Design Review Board #2 -- 5:00 pm, MSB 548-2140

Friday, May 27

Budget Study Session – 9:00 am, CH 548-4844

- **Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

Monday, May 30

All City offices and Library branches closed in honor of Memorial Day

Veteran’s Memorial Ceremony –

7:45 am, Honolulu Avenue 249-7171

9:30 am, Southeast corner of Broadway & Isabel St
240-7870

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

More about **VANGUARDIANS**

Your tax-deductible contributions support the **mission** to:

- ❖ Provide, without bias, the timely dissemination of information and knowledge of government activities to the community and elected officials
- ❖ Build, train and empower a knowledgeable, aware and involved community-wide group to monitor the integrity, performance and responsiveness of elected officials and government operations
- ❖ Encourage, by example, a community free to exchange facts and opinions on public issues by facilitating open debate and discussion on the issues
- ❖ Seek accountability, effectiveness and responsiveness from our government to insure integrity, efficiency and cost effectiveness
- ❖ Make government acutely aware there is a community watching, monitoring and measuring their activities

We, the people, have spoken...

We want to be connected to the Government

We want to be an integral part of the government process – not just a deep pocket

We want to be aware of the crucial developments facing government that directly impact on our ‘quality of life’

We want to know that our money is being spent wisely and prudently

We want to leave a prospering community for our children and grandchildren

Comments from the Community

[From The Glendale News Press 12-29-2003](#) the beginning of Accountability in Glendale. Claiming that the city needs better oversight to monitor its finances and actions, [Barry Allen] is calling on city residents to form a watchdog group to look into everything, “I think an outside, independent agency that isn’t funded by the city; that’s funded by a grass-roots initiative, is what we really need.”

Moral cowardice that keeps us from speaking our minds is as dangerous to this country as irresponsible talk. The right way is not always the popular and easy way. Standing for right when it is unpopular is a true test of moral character. [Margaret Chase Smith](#)

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.



Lorenz [Glendale Police PIO] was really caught off guard when the GNP called about Drayman. They had hoped to keep the lid on it as they are still in protective mode. We all watch cop shows and know that a search warrant comes after the bulk of an investigation. The 4th Amendment controls and says that no warrant shall issue without an oath or affirmation.

GCC: With the city chambers dark this Tuesday, you should check out the Glendale Community College board meeting on Monday night instead. It might be far more interesting than usual -- elements of political payback, the board possibly choosing full pay for faculty this summer and rejecting an offer by their union to take a 40% pay cut, all against a background of the biggest funding crisis the community colleges have ever seen. I can give you quite a bit of information about the issues coming up there, but it would have to be on background, rather than for attribution. Let me know if you are interested.

"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

6 THE DENIZENS ON THE DAIS

They had the week off

Overall rating for the week ending May 21, 2011:

Weaver	Quintero	Najarian	Friedman	Manoukian

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

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