



"Accountability"
The Government Watchdog



Vanguard
News Service Vol V
Week of November 22, 2009
www.vanguardians.org
818 243 1502

UNEMPLOYMENT HITS HARD 134,425 RESIDENTS GET GWP DELINQUENCY NOTICES

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



VANGUARD EXCLUSIVE: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Responding to a CI (Confidential informant) Vanguardians started an investigation into Career Survival Group... In May of 2006, Burbank Police Sgt. Kevin Grandalski started a new business, [Career Survival Group](#), LLC (CSG) that envisioned itself "to be the premier training resource for Fire Chiefs, command staff and supervisors," according to its webpage. Coincidentally the following names were on the CSG web site: [Robert K McFall](#), Assistant City Manager of the City of Glendale, [Scott Howard](#), Glendale City Attorney, Eric Rosoff, Burbank Police Lieutenant, and Larry Koch, Retired Burbank Deputy Police Chief. Vanguard queried McFall and Howard about their affiliation, "**Re Career Survival Group, Are you a paid principal in this business?**" McFall, listed as a contributor to the group, responded with a "No," which his Statement of Economic Interest supports. Howard responded, "Not a principal at all. Did two seminars (as I recall) at Burbank Fire Dept as a favor to our sister city (and the fact that I like to teach and it helps me keep current). Never been offered, accepted, or received any payment for my participation." Howard's Statement of Economic Interest form filed on 3/25/08 indicated he was paid \$165 for June 26 and 27, 2007 hotel accommodations, and meals by Career Survival.

Vanguard spoke with Lt. Rosoff who responded to the listed phone number which is his cell phone and who was reluctant to share the business ownership information although he did say the owners were listed on the website.

Vanguard made phone calls to some of their client list and most stated they had never heard of this organization. Among those on the [client list](#) were the cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena

A [Burbank Blog](#) spells out the relationship between and among this group: "**There's been much talk tonight that retired Deputy Chief Larry Koch was offered and has accepted the interim job to replace Stehr in a few months. It's also been one of Burbank's worst-kept secrets.**

We've pointed out elsewhere, and we'll point it out again, and *again* if need be, that Koch has a serious conflict of interest. He does business with the husband [Scott Howard] of the assistant city attorney [Juli Scott] in an outfit called the *Career Survival Group*. The founder of this organization is Lt. Eric Rosoff, who is still with the group and who we've been tipped off is *also* currently under investigation by the FBI.

The CSG group scrubbed Howard's name off of their web site about two months ago so that no one would know. But [we did](#). [These guys are all in business together](#); his wife Scott handles the BPD's legal affairs and is up to her eyeballs in these big troubles."

The issue is whether McFall and Howard were using insider information on labor negotiations. Taking on part-time employment when your employer is paying you over \$200,000 a year is something that the City Council needs to deal with.

Glendale is investigating the Burbank Police Sgt's suicide, something that is usually done by the state or county, not the next-door neighbor. Vanguardians is following up with public records requests. [ED – Here is what insiders are saying: "Just goes to show you that folks with big egos will try to convince others of just about anything. Folks working for Glendale think he's an idiot, but he sells himself as an expert to others. Let's hope there are enough gullible folks out there so that this pushes him out the door."]

[CITY LIED ABOUT TAX!](#)

[SAVE A LIFE](#)

[Vanguardians was right-on about the UUT not being revenue neutral. Residents are paying a minimum of \\$4Million more over the next 10 years](#)

THIS JUST IN:

GWP responded to a public record request by Herbert Molano – here are the results
There are 72,000 dwellings in Glendale. In Fiscal year 08/09, 50,439 people received GWP 48 hour notices to disconnect. In August 2009 alone there were 14,766 delinquency notices. The following month 1/3 received notices to cut off. 134,425 notices of delinquency were sent in FY 08/09. [Read Herbert Molano's Commentary](#)

CCM FRIEDMAN FILED AMENDED STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST Acknowledging being compensated by husbands' business that has a drawing in the contract for community gardens.

POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – WHO WAS THERE Ovanesian, Barnes, Gomez, Manoukian, Poladian, Captain Palmer, Sgt. Lorenz, Atty Merino.

WHAT THEY TALKED ABOUT:

1. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Carmen Merino reported on Pusa CPRA
- b. Update on Area Command by Capt. Palmer /Lt. Grimes
- c. Update on drug issue amongst youth in North Command

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Appearing: Weisman, (Name) Gomez guest, Sealy

3. GPAC / STAFF COMMENTS

- Ovanesian request copy of presentation by A. Mauer
- FSD Commanders requested to give updates at meetings
- Council requests direction from PD on how to educate community on drugs
- Barnes updated Council on traffic problem on N. Central.
- Council received information in regards to fraudulent driving certificates
- The Power of Community: Friday Dec 4, 2009 7 p.m. Glendale Library

Vanguardians is expanding into other communities. If you know people who want accountable government in their area, ask them to call Barry Allen at 818 243 1502

**November 27 FRIDAY BUSINESS BREAKFAST
NO MEETING**

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.

EASY ANSWERS IN A TIME OF HARD QUESTIONS



Often, the liveliest and most revealing moment in the Glendale city council meetings happens at Oral Communications. This is the public's chance to address their city council members and speak about issues unrelated to the night's agenda items. The public can literally bring up any grievance they have, though council does not have to address them. If the Dais chooses to, they can refer the issue to the appropriate department for investigation and report.

Anyone who's been watching knows the Oral Communications section would not be complete without an appearance by Jewel city resident Mike Mohill. Often, Mohill can be heard expressing his distaste for the lack of attention bestowed on South Glendale, a part of the city that hosts low income residents. He also rallies frequently alongside this publications' Barry Allen and Herbert Molano in favor of fiscal responsibility, specifically regarding city salaries and pensions.

On Tuesday night, Mohill started his speech off with some news clippings, which illuminated the economic woes of Pasadena. "From Boom to Bust" was the name of the article that appeared in the Pasadena Weekly on November 12th, and it served as one of Mohill's aids in his argument regarding California's burgeoning deficit versus its amount of borrowing. Mohill was outraged that the passing of a 28 million dollar bond for the city's Redevelopment Agency could happen during such harsh times. Mohill closed by heatedly asking council members how their private businesses were fairing.

When it came time for Council to respond, Mayor Frank Quintero had the most troubling response of the group. At first he seemed determined to keep his cool and laugh off Mohill, calling him unusually agitated and then explaining that since the mainstream news organizations have all been predicting the economy is in recovery, there is no need to worry. As Mohill tried to get in a quick figure to bring back the gravity of the situation, Quintero lost his composure and threatened to have Mohill thrown out of the chambers. He then regained an even tone and talked about the normalcy of the wavering economic cycle, and told Mohill he was, "...A little too invested in doom and gloom." With that, Quintero moved to adjourn, and as the council started to leave, Mohill shouted after them, that they didn't actually address the question at hand. Too bad, time was up. Even GTV6 cut, and in came the saccharine jingle of the local news format.



To the first time viewer, it might seem shocking that Mohill's complaint was steamrolled over in such a glib and undemocratic fashion. But to anyone who's been watching, one gets the idea that the council is trying their best to keep their collective eyes from rolling to the furthest regions of their sockets when he speaks. Maybe it's his dramatic speeches, which can carry an air of condescension, or perhaps it's really that he asks the hard questions. Presumably, if Mohill kept the theatrics out of his talk time, the council might not be able to use his character as a distraction from the legitimate questions he continues to ask at every meeting, which is exactly what happened at

this one. Still, Mohill is simply a concerned citizen who isn't out to defame, but to find out where his money is headed; Even if the council is tired of his arguments, he's just as tired of their answers. **LAUREL MILLER**

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You may agree or disagree with the views below. Feel free to comment on them.

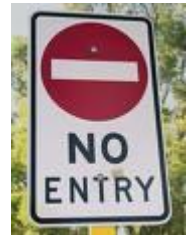


From the Publisher... **QUESTIONING, CHALLENGING AND DEBATING**

Every Tuesday the public sits waiting patiently in awe as the policy makers of the City come into the the sacrosanct Council Chambers ready to start a meeting that will be filled with Pontification, Bloviating and Posturing when it should be filled with Questioning, Challenging and full on Debate on the issues placed on the agenda by the almighty, the City Manager. Unfortunately not everyone has access to the staff reports placed on the agenda. They are available online, at the City Clerk's office and in a binder at the back of the council chambers.

Only the Council and Department heads are privy to the City Managers Weekly Report that shares inside information about what the issues will be, who is expected to speak and other red flags.

For those reasons the public expects to hear questions from Council to Staff about potentially problematic items on the agends. For instance, on Tuesday, there was an agenda item to increase the fees on water backflow devices. The question I would have asked would have been on 1) the process used and 2) why are very expensive staff members used when cheaper labor could be used to push paper. Earlier there was the issue of a \$28 Million bond issue that would be used, in part, to purchase a property already owned by the City. There was nary a question. Maybe, as CCM Drayman stated, 'there were no questions because the staff responded in private to the Council,' a pure violation of the Brown Act for Open Meetings.



We want to hear debate on the issue. The City Manager says borrowing money is good. Why is it good? The City needs to swap this land with Mr. Gangi. The unasked question would have been, "Why has it taken 10 years to complete this deal? Where are the appraisals on the property?"

The police department has been accused of discrimination, violation of civil rights and harassment. Why has the public been kept in the dark? Were I a Council member I would publicly demand the data and the processes used to prevent these costly actions.

There were two firemen injured at the Chilton Street fire yet there has been little said about what really happened. Did the first-in engine go in with a hose hooked to the self-contained water tank because it would have been a long pull from the fire hydrant? Did the 500 gallons of water run out before help could arrive? Was there really a concern with the two injured when they crawled down the stairs looking for their counetrparts?

The public will never know the answers to these questions because the Council wants everything neat and clean...sanitized.

The LA Times pointed out that drug usage in Glendale was shocking. Our City Council micromanaged the police department to cut down on activities that would have fallen into crime prevention while CCM Najarian postured about the need for a vice squad that the police chief said wasn't needed. Law and Order Najarian said he wanted 5 firemen on an engine not four. He didn't tell the public how much their union was going to spend to support his election campaign. Nor did he try to stop an unfounded campaign attack on a competitor for public office, instead he conspired with his brother to keep the public from findig out his true colors to win by any means.

The writers of the US Constitution built in safeguards by mandating 3 branches of government: the Legislative, the Executive and the Judiciary. Article I, II, and III respectively. In Glendale there are two: The Legislative that also acts as the Judicial and the Executive, Jim Starbird and his minions.

Everyday we hear the Congress questioning the Executive and the departments that fulfill the objectives of government. We see and hear the debating through C-SPAN and the questioning by the public through the press.

Glendale has decided to maintain city business in the backroom. The public sees no public debate only press releases rewritten by the local English print media. The public deserves a council that will poke, probe and ask hard questions.

A small group of people constantly challenge Vanguard for providing materials that the public needs to evaluate the work of City Officials instead of demanding answers from the Council to questions that affect our Quality of Life.

I encourage us all to take a stand for open debate, discussion and questioning by those we have elected to do what is best for the residents, visitors and workers in our City. Don't accept posturing and bloviation. Demand answers that are supported by facts. **BARRY ALLEN**
Coming: Deifying Public Safety; Divide & Conquer

The four stages of Vanguardians "First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win."
Mahatma Gandhi describing the stages of establishment resistance to a winning strategy of nonviolent advocacy

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money" -
Alexis de Tocqueville

Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. **Albert Einstein**

COMMENTARY: VALUE INVESTING IN GLENDALE - THE BUFFETT WAY



How do you identify the source of real value? In the world of investment there is Warren Buffett and then there is Bernie Madoff. In the world of constitutional law there was Thurgood Marshall and there is Clarence Thomas. In the world of business there is Steve Jobs and there was Ken Lay. The model we choose to admire is often a choice between those who add value and those who diminish it.

To me, a similar comparison exists between the Board of Education at the GUSD and the City Council at city hall. If you want to find a true commitment to constituents' needs, you'll find plenty of evidence at the GUSD. Though I can wax endlessly about the long hours, long meetings out of the limelight, and their steadfast commitment to Glendale students and their parents, their efforts, in a nutshell, are truly admirable.

Today, they face the outcome of the mismanagement of the state finances. California government is cutting deeply into our educational system and board members are faced with bad options all around. Their struggle to keep our schools viable and the students thriving is evident in their faces.

Last Wednesday evening, I watched the discussion at the forum conducted by the League of Women Voters on the impending state cuts and the dire financial conditions our schools face. Their concerns about the students' future were genuine. It was almost palpable.

Contrast this discussion with the meeting earlier this year at Hoover High on the state of traffic safety near the schools. The school board members were there, but not a single councilman was present. Outside, at a nearby lamppost, the flowers, candles and teddy bears were gathered in memory of the girl who lost her young life in an accident in front of the school.

If councilmen could not be there for that discussion, would they have any interest in considering how the city impacts the GUSD finances? In the last few years, as city expenditures outpaced tax revenues, they've have depended more on the transfers from the city utility fees. Those transfers are made up, in my opinion, by increasing the rates on residents, businesses and the schools. On Wednesday, the head of finance for the GUSD mentioned that nearly five million dollars goes to pay for utility fees.

The city council should recognize that Glendale students are also their constituents and the future of our country depends on their success. The city council should consider and approve an immediate 50% cut in the rates now being charged for electricity to the schools. Schools are already bearing the burden of California's mismanagement; they shouldn't carry the burden of reckless spending at the city level as well.

After many years of watching and interfacing with both the GUSD and the city council, I am convinced that the best political leadership in Glendale is found at the GUSD board. We need that steadfast dedication to all constituents at the city level. I urge Glendale voters to encourage Mrs. Boger, or Mrs. Wagner or Mr. Krikorian to run for city council. Their years of involvement in dealing with tough public finances are well suited to that new role. Their proven commitment to constituents' needs deserve our respect if not our admiration.

We must urge them to consider running for city council because it is another example of value investing.

HERBERT MOLANO

COMMENTARY II: JUST SAY CHARGE IT - VOTERS SNOOKERED ONCE AGAIN!

While many Glendale residents are sweating the next bill from the GWP, the management of the utility is busy applying their SWOT analysis to their strategic plan. SWOT is basic evaluation of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of an organization. It is an essential exercise in creating a solid strategic plan.

It is in page 14 of the GWP's strategic plan that a list of the threats the utility faces is prominently displayed. That is good. It is a firm step in transparency and we should all be clamoring for more.

But inadvertently, that transparency demonstrates a mindset that is pervasive in the way the city management views the public, the residents, and stakeholders. Listed as number one on the major threats to the utility is the following observation: "Customers experiencing extreme financial hardship causing GWP to lose revenues."

The consultant to the GWP, with concurrence of management, considers customers who can't pay a threat. Did it ever occur to them that the whole idea of having a public utility is to serve the public? Should the extreme difficulty of tens of thousands of customers unable to pay for electricity not be considered differently?

The city is so focused on getting the taxpayer's money at all costs, that they've simply forgotten that the whole idea of a public utility is to provide a sustainable service in both reliability and affordability. Maybe the fact that so many customers can't afford the utility rates should be reason enough for a utility to reconsider how it can deliver its product more cost effectively, or how it can accommodate the public - its core stakeholders - such that in hard times, everyone can have access to the most affordable services.

But, No! Those who can hardly bear their electric utility cost threaten their established high salaries and pensions. GWP electricity rates are recognized as one of the three highest in California. The lowest rate is in Santa Clara at 8¢ per kilowatt hour. The official residential rate for GWP is nearly double that at 15.9¢ and my own electric bill calculates to nearly 22¢! Who on God's green earth is representing the ratepayer?

So we know the city unions represent their own financial interests. But who does the council represent? You can't deduce anything else but that they serve the employee unions first. Think I am exaggerating? The city transfers \$19 million to the general fund from the electric utility and another \$4 million from the water utility. But what is still astonishing to me is that the water transfer violates prop 218 passed by the voters in 2006. The transfers, since the proposition passed, must be returned to the taxpayers. By law they can't charge more than what the service costs, a Los Angeles Superior court judge declared on March 25 of this year. We have precedent. We know the arguments. All we need is a good attorney. GWP better get ready to refund \$8 million back to the ratepayers.

Maybe it's time for the city council to rethink to whom their allegiance should be directed. Maybe those pay increases this year despite the official deflation exceeding 2 percent should have been reconsidered. Maybe reducing the employee share on their medical insurance costs this year wasn't so prudent. Maybe getting the city into more debt wasn't so wise.

So with a state unemployment rate officially now at 12.5% and city unions demanding more, how in God's earth can those without a job, without the means to afford the most basic of services be considered a threat? When a private utility can deliver product cheaper to their users, and a public utility hammers the rate-payer, I think we lost the meaning of "serving the public" along the way. This is more than an issue of money. This is an issue of the character of a city that has become more distant, more alien and more dismissive of the public. Twenty thousand families (per GWP report) who can hardly afford their electric bill are insufficient numbers to persuade the city council to rethink the real purpose of having a public utility - The needs of the public come first!

We got snookered yet again!

HERBERT MOLANO

[\[ED – Click here to see the City Attorney response.\]](#)



All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good women & men to do nothing

Sacred cows make the best hamburgers. Abbie Hoffman

Public Officials are manufacturers - many make excuses - some make trouble - only a handful make things happen



CHRISTIAN ARBID is a Real Estate Broker and Loss Mitigator. If you have questions about Foreclosures, Short Sales, Saving Your Home, Loan Modifications, email him at christianarbid@gmail.com and your question may be answered in the next issue of Vanguard.

Total Number of Current and Active Glendale Foreclosures as of Nov. 20, 09

are: **927**

VANGUARD – THE REAL NUMBERS

In my opinion, the Glendale News Press deliberately continues to publish old, back dated, and inaccurate foreclosure information in an array of recent foreclosure articles. What's even more telling is the fact that just a few weeks ago, Mr. Zain Shauk of the Glendale News Press called my office to obtain information as to where I derive my foreclosure numbers. I respectfully advised Mr. Shauk that his reported numbers are 30-60 days BEHIND the curve as Realty Trac is a nationwide "tracking" service. In addition, and in my professional opinion, I find their information to be unreliable and their foreclosures numbers to be consistently outdated. A nationwide foreclosure tracking company simply cannot offer the up to date, fresh numbers daily. It is virtually impossible. There isn't enough time in the day for someone to report daily numbers in every county recorder's office, in every state.

The foreclosure numbers quoted in Vanguard are factual. My sources obtain and update numbers every 12 to 24 hours. I cover 5 states DAILY and via the County Recorder's Office in each geographical location. The Glendale numbers are officially derived from the Los Angeles County Recorder's Office. With that in mind, anyone that debates my reporting is essentially calling the entire staff at the County of Los Angeles Recorders Office a group of liars. It's not hearsay or a figment of our imagination.

In an attempt to be respectful to Mr. Shauk and in hopes of accurate reporting, I shared my database with Mr. Shauk. Furthermore, I went out of my way to include a detailed spreadsheet of all the 900 + homes in Glendale



that are currently in default or in the foreclosure process so that the GNP has the proper documentation. Naturally, the true numbers were never published in the Glendale News Press. Even when the GNP has concrete, undisputed knowledge of the true numbers of defaulted properties - they refuse to put it to print. That type of reporting is questionable at best.

Then again, what should one expect from a small town, midget newspaper that has consistently shown a history of keeping the blindfolds on its' readers.

Stick with the Daily News or the Wall St. Journal for factual information.

The choice of cherry picked, selective truths is quite clear at the Glendale News Press. On the other hand if you seek worthless, back dated, fluff and information from 3 months ago; you can always rely on the GNP.

Christian Arbid

The only way to make sure people you agree with can speak is to support the rights of people you don't agree with. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

"Power corrupts the few, while weakness corrupts the many" -Eric Hoffer, 1902-1983

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

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

2 Shout Box ED – Letters published do not necessarily express the opinion of Vanguardians, this publication, 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 will be published that are signed and are not hate oriented.



Glendale's government at work - i.e. a tremendous number of taxpayer paid employees with pensions and salaries (union) are not even comparable to those doing the same jobs in private industry -- no, they are paid more! Then there is our US government employees (union), paid by you and me. I must mention, also, those in Congress who are the beneficiaries of a tremendous pension plan as well as their 'Cadillac' healthcare plans, also paid by you and me. The latter will not be a part of the healthcare bill that is being presented to all Americans. Is something wrong with this picture? **Marlene Walker**

The Glendale City Council meetings are looking more like Howdy Doody Time every week. I'm glad to see Barry and Herb aren't wasting too much of their time appearing before that bunch of clowns. Mohill should appear in a court jester costume as befitting any speaker wasting their time attempting to influence such a contemptuous group of medieval village idiots. God Save the Queen should be the new council motto. **WG**

Wow! Glendale is a real business friendly city with all the increases in water rates, backflow devices, fire dept fees, etc. I think Starbird and staff will recommend a new GWP metering device which will enable Mr. Steiger to measure every fart we take... only \$1 per fart.... and Weaver will tell us that compared to LA they are charging \$2.50...so Glendale farts are a real bargain compared to them. **Mike Mohill**

When the people fear their government, there is tyranny; when the government fears the people, there is liberty. **Thomas Jefferson**

I am a legislator. I write the laws therefore I can wrong them. Throckmorton P. Aardvark III

3 Public Information

UTILITY LOSERS TAX

"Just the facts"

Utility Users Tax – City Lied – below shows revenue from the UUT-Telecom

	Sept. 2008	Sept. 2009	
Cable TV	\$174,069.77	\$182,586.67	
CATV Telecom	\$14,447.98	\$34,823.84	
Cellular prepaid	\$4,418.56	\$4,929.98	
Cellular	\$512,541.64	\$518,954.28	
Local Exch-Wired	\$157,755.01	\$105,836.75	
Long Dist.-Wired	\$39,883.10	\$74,320.76	
All other wired	\$30,287.97	\$44,821.84	

In order to avoid a prop 218 issue the City said that the Utility Users Tax (UUT) would be 'revenue neutral'. This information from Administrative Services demonstrates that it is **not** revenue neutral. Those who pay a UUT got ripped off again.

	\$933,404.03	\$966,274.12	\$32,870.09
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VANGUARD REQUEST. The Courts have decided that prop 218 applies to Municipal Water Agencies, such as the GWP, with regard to transferring reserves to the General Fund that are over and above the cost of that water. GWP has transferred funds to the General Fund. Provide

- 1) Documents demonstrating the excess that should be returned to the GWP.
- 2) Reports and memorandum discussing this issue
- 3) Reports from GWP showing the cost of water compared to the sale of water
 1. **CITY RESPONSE.** With regard to Item 1 of your request please be advised that there are no records responsive to your request.
 2. With regard to Item 2, please be advised that the records are privileged pursuant to the attorney client privilege and attorney work product privilege, and are not subject to disclosure.
 3. With regard to Item 3, please review the City of Glendale website at:

http://www.glendalewaterandpower.com/reports/annual_reports.aspx

Vanguard Request: The GRA approved a new bond. One of the purposes was to purchase the property at 216 S Brand which I understand was already purchased by the City or the GRA. Provide documents demonstrating the need to purchase this property. Do not submit the staff report submitted to Council and GRA on November 3. Documents include memo's reports and other writings to and from City and GRA Staff to their counterparts and the various bonding agents.

City Response: Please be advised that there are no records responsive to your request

Additional Request: I find it difficult to believe there are no documents with regard a \$28M bond and the reasons for it. Provide the ownership info on the 216 S Brand Bldg

[Home Page of Open Government \(???\) in Glendale California](#)



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

Tuesday, November 24

2:30 pm CH Housing Authority 548-2060 & Redevelopment Agency 548-2005
 6:00 pm CH City Council 548-4844

Wednesday, November 25

Zoning Administrator's Meeting – 9:30 am, MSB 548-2140

Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 City Offices are closed

Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government.
Thomas Jefferson

Without freedom of thought, there can be no such thing as wisdom; and no such thing as public liberty, without freedom of speech. Benjamin Franklin

Live so that you wouldn't be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town Gossip. Will Rogers

4 *Vanguardians*

- At the Vanguardians Friday Breakfast at Foxy's we discussed Conflict of Interest and Brown Act violations. Each week we add a few new faces and have returning warriors. Become one. This is an excellent opportunity to share opinions about quality of life issues.
- Get breaking Glendale News by signing up for an RSS feed at www.vanguardians.org
- Great opportunity for you to place your ad or link on www.vanguardians.org


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
 You may donate online at www.vanguardians.org

On some positions, Cowardice asks the question "Is it safe?" Expediency asks the question "Is it politic?" And Vanity comes along and asks the question "Is it popular?" But Conscience asks the question "Is it right?" And there comes a time when one

must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must do it because Conscience tells him it is right. (1968)
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

"If you can't drink a lobbyist's whiskey, take his money, sleep with his women and still vote against him in the morning, you don't belong in politics." And, "Money is the mothers' milk of politics." Jesse Unruh

5  **the Insider** is a report from 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.



Rumor has it that Eddie Lee is going to start a blog about his experience with the City. Eddie was let go by the City a few years ago after one of his coworkers made up allegations against him so that the coworkers could get more overtime assignments. What followed was an example of why City Employees are so scared to speak out about anything.

Council wants to micromanage the police department and has hands off on fire. Compared to overtime and throwing money away, fire is way ahead of police. Maybe the time has come to stop giving preferential treatment to certain CC members by cops.

The Internet and Cell Phone communications may not be as secure as once thought.

6 Text Message Intercepts...On a Tuesday...

"lets rap up erly I am tired of listening 2 losers"
"dad bring home pizza"
"quik tell her what to say"
"L is at a cities"
"DW is out trying 2 cover the fine"
"M really pisses me off"
"Can the fine be paid by City"
"Scott is working on that"
"I hear from SE he is looking to nail u"
"u can always count on B and S"
"You have to make nice to him and find the leaks"
"MH is going to set him up"

"Do u think his wife is looking at disability"
"It will feel good to get out of this s-hole"
"Dave – how much did the atty cost?"
"We gotta stop him"
"I'm sick of her and her stupid hats"
"I wasn't invited to the wedding, were u"
"Is his math right?"
"Tell hot shot to turn his ringer off"
"just vote YES, we'll talk about it later"
"ignore him"



A people that values its privileges above its principals soon loses both.--Dwight D. Eisenhower

"Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to **skid in sideways - Chardonnay in one hand - chocolate in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO HOO, What a Ride".**

Opportunity is missed by most people, because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.--Thomas A. Edison

7 **NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

Riverside Mayor [Ron Loveridge](#) was elected over the weekend as president of the [National League of Cities](#). Loveridge is the first Californian since 1974 to head the advocacy organization, which represents about 19,000 cities and towns across the country.

[More Drama than Glendale](#)

[A City Becomes Center of Taxpayer Outrage](#)

Perris, Calif., a Riverside County community of 50,000, which became the center of taxpayer outrage last week when voters rejected an illegal property tax. City officials in Perris, whose nickname is "the skydiving capital of America," forgot their parachutes when they jumped at a chance to wring an additional \$2 million from property owners through a per-parcel tax that they claimed could be passed with a simple majority, contrary to the strict provisions of Proposition 13, which mandate a two-thirds vote. [Read more here.](#)

Years of budget deficits predicted for California as it faces annual budget deficits of \$20 billion even while assuming state employees would receive no salary increases through 2014-15, according to a forecast issued today by the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office. [Read more.](#)

The state auditor has launched www.WeDrawTheLines.ca.gov to gin up interest and clear up confusion for Californians applying to serve on the **Citizens Redistricting Commission**.

CUT LEGISLATIVE SALARIES: Attorney General Jerry Brown opined today that the state's salary-setting commission for legislators can cut salaries in mid-term after all. [Read more.](#)

GLENDALE CA AND JUPITER FL HAVE MANY CONNECTIONS:

JUPITER — An overgrown lawn could cost a homeowner \$1,000 a day.

A plan to quadruple the penalty from the current maximum of \$250 per day for a first violation is scheduled for consideration at Tuesday night's town council meeting. A repeat violation by the same person would be boosted to \$5,000 a day maximum from \$500 per day. If the code enforcement board finds that the violation is irreversible — the unapproved removal of an historic tree, for example — the violator would face a maximum fine of \$15,000. The current maximum penalty is \$5,000.

Higher penalties are needed to deter flagrant violators, said Councilman Robert Friedman. A landlord who allows too many people to live in a house simply sees the current fine as a cost of doing business, he said. "Code enforcement needs a larger hammer," Friedman said. Last year Jupiter's seven-person Code Enforcement Division collected about \$39,000 in fines, according to town records.

The town code regulates items such as when garbage cans can be placed outside, noise volume, parking of boats, heights of fences, the number of tenants and landscaping. Lawns cannot be higher than eight inches in developed residential areas. "The higher maximum gives us more discretion in levying the penalty," said Code Enforcement Director Frank Melillo.

FROM PUBLIC CEO: Public Employee Unions Behind Wasteful Campaign

Historically, recalls are for malfeasance in office. In Oceanside, the recall is for a power grab and pension funds. And in an attempt to convince people that the issue is a City Councilman's conduct in office, which it is not, the recall proponents have engaged in a campaign of distortion and outright misstatement. [Read this and more headlines here.](#)

City to Offer Free Parking In Business Districts During Holidays

The city of Sacramento will allow residents shoppers to its downtown, midtown and Old Sac area to park for free this year during the holiday season. To encourage shopping in the city, Sacramento's program will begin the day after Thanksgiving and last through Christmas Day. [Read more here.](#)

Kevin Johnson's accuser says he offered to pay her \$1,000 a month

Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson offered to pay \$1,000 a month to one of three girls who had accused him of inappropriately touching her while she was involved in his St. HOPE Hood Corps program, the girl has told federal agents.

Email info@vanguardians.org to subscribe to the Weekly News on issues that impact Glendale. **The media with a voice; the organization that gets results you want; we 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 charitable 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** Copyrighted materials used with permission. ©2009

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Story Line – Judge told to convict an innocent