



“Accountability”  
The Government Watchdog

# Vanguard

Los Angeles CA Vol VI  
Week of June 5, 2011

[info@vanguardians.org](mailto:info@vanguardians.org)  
[www.vanguardians.org](http://www.vanguardians.org)

818 243 1502

## TROIKA OPENLY CONSPIRES TO VIOLATE CIVIL RIGHTS

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

### Vanguardians Weekly Glendale Meetings are back

**Bribes, Embezzlement, Conspiracy, Building Code Violations, Search Warrants**

Our first program will discuss the many facets of the Drayman investigations: Why they started and when; the subject of the investigation including photographs and more.

Reservations are a must. Make them by calling or emailing Barry Allen 818 243 1502. Separate checks will be provided. Donations are encouraged.

Thursday, June 9, 2011 8AM – Foxy’s on Colorado across from Americana

### HELP WANTED

The Glendale Select Committee is looking for successful entrepreneurs who have reached the pinnacle of their career and are ready to serve their community. People who agree that:

- the community comes first,
- technology is embraced,
- integrity is maintained and
- 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 in order to pay for 60-100 new ambulance drivers. One department alone is recommending a \$107,000,000 projected revenue based on fee increases. Be involved. Show up at City Hall Council Chambers at 9AM Tuesday.

“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.

### CONTENTS:

**News:**

Anti-corruption bill  
Compton prepares white flag  
Cities save \$\$ with outsourced legal  
Legislature seeks to clip wings of local  
Norco wants \$1M cut in fire  
San Jose 10% pay cut  
New CM guidelines  
Hollister – spend more  
Burbank Mayor gives left over \$\$ to ARS  
Yuba cops cut 17%  
Drayman throws buds under de bus  
Glendale holds Lopez to higher standard

1) [Commentary](#)

[Barry Allen:](#)

Conspiracy

[Herbert Molano:](#)

2) [Shout Box](#)

Sorry for turn-down  
Scoggins fibbed  
Lawyers beware

GFFA can't get volunteers for funerals  
Drayman took his hands out of the pot  
Drayman sez, "Nah-Nah" to bldg inspectors  
Weaver – Spirit willing – Flesh weak  
Cop sez: Conflict of Interest  
No moral compass  
Mayor dressing better

3) [Public Records](#)

4) [Vanquardians](#)  
[Watchdog Training](#)

5) [The Insider](#)

Another cop DUI  
Illegal search & seizures  
Planning created a new department  
Neighborhood services  
What really happened with Mario Lopez  
Fuentes under attack again

6) [The Denizens on the Dais](#)  
Shameful display of antipathy



**Anti-corruption bill modeled on San Gabriel Valley cities clears Assembly Pasadena Star-News**

One of two anti-corruption bills modeled on San Gabriel Valley cities moved out of the state Assembly floor today with a two-thirds vote. AB 527, by Assemblyman Roger Hernandez, D-West Covina, aims to tighten laws surrounding conflicts of interest in publicly financed projects.

According to Hernandez spokeswoman Yong Eo, the purpose of AB 527 is two-fold. The first is to make contracting relationships with third parties count as a conflict of interest, even if the relationship is separate from the city contract. The second is to include non-elected officials - like city managers and other managerial employees - among those who can be held accountable for these conflicts.

The revised version clarifies the language to assure that only the person with an illegal financial interest is held responsible for a crime, Eo said.

Existing law requires elected officials to recuse themselves if they have a financial interest in the city's contract making. [Read more:](#)

**[Compton Council](#) gets a wake-up call to reality. On the verge of insolvency they cancel plans to resurrect police department.**

**PublicCEO:** [Contracted Legal Duties Saved City Millions](#)

In Costa Mesa, where the privatization battle is raging, a recent analysis of legal costs over the last decade shows that outsourcing has saved millions. [Read more.](#)

**PublicCEO:** [Amended Bill in Assembly Further Threatens Local Government Autonomy](#)

In April, Assembly Bill 438 threatened to set new limits on local government authority. After it was amended on the floor yesterday it declared virtual war on home rule. [Read more.](#)

[Norco Considers Cutting \\$1 Million from Fire Budget](#)

[San Jose Imposes 10% Pay Cut on 4 Unions](#)

[Carmel OKs New Guidelines for City Manager](#)

[Hollister Mayor Acknowledges That \\$722K Should Have Been Spent](#)

[Burbank Mayor Donates Left Over Campaign Cash to Armenian Relief Society](#)

[Yuba City Police OK 17% Salary Reduction](#)

[Drayman throws his buddies Mark and Jeff under the bus as he points his finger at them. Never underestimate the power of an abused lover.](#)

[City of Glendale holds Mario Lopez to a higher standard than X-Council member John Drayman.](#)

#### Civic Watchdog Training

Vanguardians received a grant to provide training and educational materials for 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](mailto: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



It is not unusual to hear, from time to time, Councilman Weaver complain about our efforts to dig out conflicts of interest, insider deals, waste, and abuse within city government. We've uncovered enough to keep the District Attorney and Federal Agencies busy, even though they seem to have their hands full with even more egregious and outrageous behavior at other cities.

Last Friday, May 27, when City Clerk Kassakhian was making his plea to maintain his tiny budget Weaver renewed his belly-aching about the public records act. What Weaver wouldn't articulate was that we have used city documents to provide the oversight that the city council has refused to do for many years.

Anyone who's followed the City of Bell knows that the first thing that City Manager Rizzo did was to put a stop to public records requests, make them costly for the public, or use extreme delaying tactics. When that failed, they simply provided false and misleading information.

David Weaver was not a happy camper when we disclosed the reasons for a police call to his house, which according to police who requested anonymity, was for domestic violence. Women whose partners abused alcohol were 3.6 times more likely than other women to be assaulted by their partners.<sup>4</sup> Nor has he been pleased by our attempts to dig out the alleged DUI stops by the GPD after the councilman's frequent hard-drinking outings. God forbid that a pedestrian or motorist gets injured or killed after the GPD lets him go with just a verbal warning.

But Weaver's arrogance was co-joined by Mayor Friedman and Councilmember Najarian. It appears that our efforts to dig out their respective conflicts of interests have reached their desks. But Friedman's lack of knowledge about the California Public Records Act (CPRA) was prominently displayed and Najarian painted all the CPRA requests as frivolous which lacks definition. The city attorney had to step in to remind them that they were treading on a slippery slope. In the past, the courts found them circumventing the spirit of this California law and penalized the city.

Meanwhile I think the time has come for a bit of education on the public records act. When the voters passed Prop 59 in 2004 it made the public records act, GCS 6250 et seq, a civil right as you can read below:

#### CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 1 DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

SEC. 3. (b) (1) The people have the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business, and, therefore, the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny.

Now, should the Glendale City Council decide that the People will have that civil right denied to them, the People have redress in filing a civil action for the deprivation of those rights. Up until recently that was opined to only involve police officers with the power of arrest but it has been expanded to cover many more occupations including legislators who knowingly and with intent, as Friedman, Najarian and Weaver displayed on Friday the

27<sup>th</sup>, to conspire to deprive the People of their Civil Rights. Certainly a suit to restore those civil rights would be quite costly to the City of Glendale.

The essence of conspiracy is the agreement between two or more persons to, in this case, deprive the people of their civil rights.

TITLE 42 > CHAPTER 21 > SUBCHAPTER I > § 1983. Civil action for deprivation of rights

Every person who, under color of any statute, ordinance, regulation, custom, or usage, of any State or Territory or the District of Columbia, subjects, or causes to be subjected, any citizen of the United States or other person within the jurisdiction thereof to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution and laws, shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress...

As George W. Bush said, 'bring it on'.

---

*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*

---

### THE INCONSEQUENTIAL COUNCIL



We've all heard it before. Money makes the world go round, and in this year's budget study sessions the talk around the city's money problems has been enough to make your head spin.

These budget sessions have been the most prolonged, long-winded, and mind-numbing exercises laid out by the city management to give the appearance of thoroughness. You can bet your taxes that three or four of the council members will play out these vacuous sessions as examples of their diligence in addressing the budget shortfall. Except for a few candid and shocking moments worth remembering, most of the two-dozen hours of presentations along with the hundreds of slide presentations could have been sold as insomniac therapy.

I've sat through nearly all the presentations, and this whole experience simply taught me how a bureaucracy controls both elected officials and the message it wants to portray to the general public. There is nothing different than any self-serving government in any third-world country would do. It has been just another pathetic demonstration of bureaucratic narcissism.

Do you want to know what the mission of the Glendale Water and Power is? How about the mission of the Parks Department? The blabber was full of either inconsequential fluff or data so detailed that councilman Weaver at one point was admitting to the Information Services staff that he did not understand a thing they said. The bureaucrat's plan was simple. Overwhelm the council members with a barrage of detail, the shock and awe approach, then give them a minuscule reduction in total salary and wages options by throwing the lowest paid employees out the door. They then capped it off with a suggestion for fee or tax increases. The city manager would then seal the departments' justifications by applauding their self-sacrifice and blaming the economy.

Look, the problem is very simple. The city has a structural budget problem because its personnel costs have grown much faster than the revenues. The city managers don't want the Council to touch either their pay or their benefits, so they don't want to discuss the city's expenditure growth in those areas in the last ten years. They structured the budget presentations to limit the city council's choices to removing services to the public while keeping the bulk of the money for pay and benefits largely unchanged. When challenged, the city manager claims that city services are nearly all about labor costs.

What he leaves out is the dire fact that high pensions and post-employment benefits don't add any services to the city stakeholders, or that it is the primary role of the city council to stem the damage of out-of-control costs. The city's managers, police and fire-fighters have consistently demonstrated that they, irrespective of their formal titles, are simply indifferent to the needs of the public. Their primary goals, demonstrated by their actions, are about increasing their share of the government money and keeping it all if the city council lets them.

In simple terms revenue growth, as shown on the city's Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFR,) though increasing substantially (by over \$60 million since 2000,) has been insufficient to keep up with labor-related increases of over \$93 million. Let's look at a comparison ten years apart.

	2000	2010	Increase
Property Tax Revenue	31,182,000	80,422,000	49,240,000
Sales Tax Revenue	27,282,000	27,594,000	312,000
Utility Users Tax Revenue	16,731,000	27,827,000	11,096,000
Transfers from GWP	13,900,000	23,267,000	9,367,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>75,195,000</b>	<b>135,843,000</b>	<b>60,648,000</b>
Salaries Expense	98,803,652	151,473,773	52,670,121
Pension Contribution*	8,423,039	23,852,000	15,428,961
Medical Insurance*	3,972,010	21,597,000	17,624,990
Workers compensation Claims*	8,663,309	16,258,000	7,594,691
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,862,010</b>	<b>213,180,773</b>	<b>93,318,763</b>

Note: The pension contribution includes combined employee and employer payments so it makes the total compensation overstated. The employee share of the pension (9% for fire and police) is added to their salaries then deducted to pay CalPERS according to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Note: Medical Insurance and workers' compensation claims are for 2001 and 2010.

Other sources of funds help cover the city's payroll such as grants and funds from Federal and other governmental agencies as well as other fees and enterprise fund revenues. Transfers from the Capital Improvement funds were also applied to cover past short-falls. The revenue streams listed are the major locally generated revenues and the fact that the city experienced an 80% increase in local revenues belies the city manager's claim that the economy is at fault for the deficit.

The good economic times years from 2004 still show deficits nonetheless as stated on the city's budget message. "General Revenues (2004-2005) are expected to increase 8.7%..." (Page A-1 2004-2005 budget) and "CalPERS cost increases for fiscal year 2004/05 amount to an additional \$8 million cost to the General fund."

But the impact of the pension obligation is clearly recognized in the 2004/05 budget. "Since March 2000 the Stock Market has lost a tremendous amount of value to CalPERS. CalPERS invests approximately 60% in U.S. equities. Consequently the safety employee rates for the city have increased from 1.8% of payroll...and it's projected to grow to 24.9%..." (Budget Message page A-5) Yet despite the warnings, the city council in 2005 increased the pension benefits of the rest of the employees by over 25%

Medical insurance costs (from 2001) have risen by nearly 444% while the national average increase in ten years has been 131% - But a discussion of the reasons why the city carries such a higher burden was not considered by the council during the budget study session.

Workers compensation claims more than doubled without any discussion on the reason for such an exorbitant change. Here is where deficiencies in management performance can be pinned. If they can't improve employee safety or reduce compensation claim abuse, these managers don't deserve their salary increases.

Managers' Salaries: Even here, there is little accountability to performance. Compare the Consumer Price Index inflation since 2001 of 23.13% to their compensation increases in 9 years:

Position Title	Gross 2001	Gross 2010	Percent Increase
City Manager	\$185,820	\$265,349	43%
Fire Chief	\$141,532	\$240,251	70%
Police Chief	\$149,150	\$239,760	61%
Director of GWP	\$149,512	\$230,428	54%

There is one indubitable and incontrovertible fact. The budget shortfall, by any measure or standard, is the result of major increases in the total salary, pension, and benefit increases. But the city council would not be provided any opportunity to address any of those issues in public during the budget study sessions. The most embarrassing hour last week occurred when the members of the city council were reduced to discussing reductions in library hours in amounts of \$20,000 to \$30,000 dollars, a miserly 0.000025 of the \$800 million dollar budget.

All the prestige the city council bestows on itself, and all the apparent accomplishment that comes with the title of council members can't belie the fact Glendale is a city run by and for the big three city employee unions. The fact that the Managers, Fire and Police unions were effective in getting four council members elected (Weaver, Quintero, Najarian,

Friedman) is proven with their influence in these budget discussions. The city council's power is inconsequential in matters of payroll, but the impacts on the public and on their quality-of-life have been devastating this past decade.

**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.

Thank you so much for the care you took in telling us about your work in your nomination for The Purpose Prize. You are part of a growing movement of individuals finding ways to use their skills and experience to make a difference in their communities -- to live (not leave) a legacy.

This year we received more than 1,000 nominations. Unfortunately, you have not been selected for one of our awards at this time.

Although we can't provide you with funding this year, we believe you are an experienced leader who is achieving great things in this new, encore stage of life. You know the value of experience, and you prove every day that innovation has little to do with age.

I hope you will consider visiting [www.encore.org](http://www.encore.org) to learn more about our efforts to support those in encore careers that combine purpose, passion and a paycheck. The website includes information about pilot programs, resources, and local organizations springing up across the country to help people find their encores. There, you can be re-nominated for one of our 2012 prizes if you think we should give your work further consideration. You can also follow our work on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/encore.org](http://www.facebook.com/encore.org).

Again, thank you for your submission and for proving what is possible during the encore years.

Sincerely, Alexandra Céspedes Kent, Director, The Purpose Prize

---

The budget information presented by Fire Chief Scoggins shared a lot of incorrect information and withheld other important information about the proposed changes in the EMS system. Scoggins said it would take about 60 part time civilian employees working no more than 1000 hours per year to staff all five ambulances. Anyone can do the simple math and realize that it takes a total of 88 to accomplish the mandatory staffing. This is an error factor of 33% but sadly, it apparently is good enough for bureaucrats. After all it's not their money they are playing with.

Here's the real math: Each employee works 1000 hours per year maximum because in order to save money, these folks don't receive any benefits. The proposal calls for five ambulances staffed with two part time employees at all times which means that ten employees are on-duty at any given time. So  $10 \times 24 \times 365$  equals 87,600. That is the actual total hours a year need to fill the required positions. Working at a maximum of 1000 hours each, it will take 88 part time employees to meet the scheduling requirements. The questions are how could Scoggins and his highly paid staff be so completely off in their calculations, and how could the city manager, director of finance and the city council during their deliberations not spot it. Bruce Philpott told them of this error but it was completely ignored. This is no way to run a budget and no way to run a local government. MK

---

If you are a lawyer and have handled cases in Glendale where you have made a 'Pitchess Motion' with City Attorney Ann Maurer representing the Glendale Police Department and especially Sgt. Higgins and she didn't disclose her relationship with Sgt. Higgins, you may have a cause of action. Cal Bar

---

The reason you can't staff an engine for funerals with off duty non-OT firefighters is because you can't get 4 of them to volunteer for it. HH

---

What a strange coincidence that the MSPA Harvest Market operated in the red from the time it was established in 2002 until just a couple of weeks ago when former Glendale City Council member John Drayman was removed from the cash

handling and fee collections loop. Since then weekly receipts have reportedly more than tripled and the popular Montrose event appears headed for profitability for the first time.

Am I suggesting that the holier-than-thou former Prince of Montrose may have had his hand in the merchants' cookie jar? You have to admit it does seem as if a pattern is emerging whenever the bright light of scrutiny illuminates the activities of Mr. Drayman. Let the chips fall where they may and if the fancy dressing ex-councilman is as dirty as some believe then let him trade in his sharkskin suits for the orange jumpsuit and shower slippers he so richly deserves.

The jig is up. Book 'em Dano. NAJ [ED – NAJ is a frequent contributor to the Shout Box. He is a respected, well known figure in the Montrose area. The initials don't mean 'Najarian.]

Is it true that Drayman won't let the building inspector in to see his new trappings? KG [ED – There are many stories going around. This is one. Another is that Drayman rolled on his colleagues. Yet another is that Mr. K is ready to sell his story.]

Are you aware that two city council members have knowledge of a third city council member who was attempting to have carnal knowledge, without her consent, of a young Asian girl during the after party at the Royal Palace for the Miss Asia contest? It took place in an area of the building where there was video surveillance. The victim wanted the police called. She was talked out of it and was paid off not to bring charges. KR

[Pub – In checking out this 'story' that I had originally heard shortly after the event that had, at that time, the exact dollar amounts of the bribe given to the victim and the \$17,000 given to the CCM for a vote on a variance, I knew that there was no way I could verify the information. This past week I was contacted by a person who was there and told me who the people involved were. We are open to getting a copy of the video surveillance media to turn over to the proper authorities. As one of those council members said, "Why bring it up now as the statute of limitations has run."]

I am a law enforcement officer and I was appalled that the Glendale Police Department is investigating a former city council member that has allegedly committed the crime of embezzlement while an elected official. In our agency we would not investigate an elected official who has been our boss, who has approved our compensation packages and to whom our Political Action Committee has given money and otherwise supported him. It is a conflict of interest. That matter should have been presented to the County District Attorney and Chief DePompa would have been the hero and not the goat. Badge Carrier

[ED – Vanguard had developed a CI (Confidential Informant) in 2006. That person had evidence. We also developed other information that we offered the GPD but they placed restrictions on us. Since that time we have turned the information over to a disassociated agency.]

It looks like the city of Glendale continues to perpetuate unethical and unlawful enforcement of its building codes. When Vanguardians brought complaints with irrefutable photos of unpermitted remodeling of then council member John Drayman's condo, the city ignored them. The city manager, city attorney and council members all viewed and heard overwhelming evidence to support a formal investigation, yet they all failed to even give an explanation to the public as to why they would not act. But they are coming down on a TV celebrity who built an outside sun shade that was reportedly without a permit.

Isn't a violation of a complete remodel of the interior of a condominium that cost the now defrocked ADI and its subcontractors over \$200,000 more important than a cabana costing 10% of the condo remodel?

Politics plays funny in this city. The city flexes its enforcement muscle very selectively, which by the way, is a violation of "equal enforcement under the law". But, like Bell, Glendale lacks the moral compass to decipher these refined issues of law. KM. [ED – [See Insider](#)]

**It looks like Mayor Friedman is dressing better and driving a luxury car. Just like Drayman. Is her husband getting more landscape maintenance contracts based on [REDACTED]. You had mentioned Modern Parking, one of the first contracts on which she voted. Is there a connection? KBG [ED – Good memory. We won't comment at this time.]**

### 3



### Public Information



“Just the facts”

Councilman Manoukian has a webpage where readers can get data that is not easily obtained  
[www.manoukian.us](http://www.manoukian.us)

---

“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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor at 613 E Broadway.  
Meetings at the Municipal Services Bldg. (MSB) are in room 105 at 633 E Broadway.  
Meetings at the Perkins Bldg (PB) are in the Conference Room at 141 N Glendale Ave.  
Phone numbers are in area code 818 unless noted otherwise

### Monday, June 6

Water & Power Commission – 4:00 pm, CH 548-2107

### Tuesday, June 7

**Budget Study Session** – 9:00 am, CH 548-4844  
Housing Authority – 2:30 pm, CH 548-2060  
Redevelopment Agency – 2:30 pm, CH 548-2005  
City Council -- 6:00 pm, CH 548-4844

### Wednesday, June 8

**Budget Study Session** – 2:00 pm, CH 548-4844

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

**Community Meeting** – Proposed Sale of surplus property at  
3445 Altura Ave – 7:00 pm, Montrose-Crescenta Branch  
Library, 2465 Honolulu Avenue, Montrose. (818) 548-3803

**Thursday, June 9** No Meetings Scheduled

**Friday, June 10** No Meetings Scheduled

---

## 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 be posted and meetings are open.
- The [California Public Records Act](#) (PRA) is the tool to get information about the operations of government.
- The [Political Reform Act of 1974](#) allows public access to the financial reports of public officials.
- [www.maplight.org](http://www.maplight.org) to follow the money trail from special interests to the policy maker

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

More about **VANGUARDIANS**mission

- ❖ 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

### 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.



[PUB - We added two new insiders this week. Insiders are government employees and other stakeholders who respect their communities and want to make certain they give full value. They report when things are out-of-control and need intervention by the elected officials or top management. I treat them with honor and respect; their identities are coded and protected; the journalist shield adds another layer of protection that is immune from the Courts. CI means 'Confidential Informant' which is a term used in law enforcement to keep identities secret. The number following represents the sequence when they began their service.]

**From CI-17:** Special Enforcement Officer G. Jimenez was arrested last month by LA county Sheriff's Dept for DUI. Officer Jimenez remains on active duty even though the Chief has said there is a zero tolerance policy for misconduct.

[ED – This Officer is a Glendale city employee who was arrested for DUI and is still working. The officer will most likely receive a medical/disability pension because the California Worker's Comp/Disability Pension Laws say that alcoholism is a cause for a pension because the stresses of the job contributed to the "illness".]

The Sgt of the Burglary Division that is on leave was only placed on leave after other officers complained about illegal search and seizures being ordered by the Sgt. potentially costing the City more money in lawsuits....

**[CI-12 Elucidates:** The Sgt. is from the Financial Crimes Unit, and he has a history of misconduct but he is one of the good old boys! I believe Jimenez was arrested by Highway Patrol..]

**CI-17** continues The City's Planning Department has created a new Department and new positions without the knowledge of most in the City. The new Department (The Innovation Department) is a spinoff of the Redevelopment and Economic Department.... This Department was created to justify the high staffing levels in the Redevelopment and Econ and Planning Department... These Departments have the highest amounts of managers to regular staff ratio than any other Department in the City.

[ED – Council members don't remember authorizing this new expense.]

Neighborhood Services claims to have made over 352,000 face to face contacts by their Public Outreach staff in this fiscal year alone. WOW...lol... The Public Outreach staff which consist of one supervisor and two full time employees and various part time staff. These numbers have been inflated to try to justify the need for a Public Education staff which does not make any sense because Parks and Rec has an Outreach staff which does the same things....[ED – Fantastic in there are only 191,000 residents in Glendale.]

I would look into these matters because the taxpayers of Glendale are being lied to continuously.

The Administrator for Neighborhood Services Sam Engel operates Glendale Clean and Beautiful which is a separate nonprofit agency... The City and taxpayers pay his 150k salary for him working for the nonprofit which does not pay the City for Mr. Engels time.

There are also 3 full time staff members: Juan Gonzales, Sandra Rodriguez, and Jaxien Webb which spend more than 50% of their work days doing projects for Clean and Beautiful... Taxpayers are paying for City workers to do other things...

The City has been working with Actor Mario Lopez who has been doing construction on his property in the City without permits for almost a 1yr. The Planning Director Hassan and City Manager's office employee Mrs. Mullen's had instructed Neighborhood Services and Building and Safety not to take any action against Mr. Lopez. Recently Neighborhood Services Inspector Rene Sada was allowed to start a code enforcement case due to Mr. Lopez's disregard of obtaining permits.

The City Facilities Administrator John Hickman who receives a \$400 monthly vehicle allowance comes into work and everyday uses a City vehicle for work when the vehicle allowance is given so certain staff can use their personal vehicles.

I have never in my life seen so many dishonest government employees and I have worked for government agencies for almost the last 20 years. Glendale takes the cake but I never worked in Bell so I am not sure...

**From CI-7:** The "new department" is actually a new division, complete with a deputy director in charge of it. The head is Emil Tatevosian, who managed to get appointed to a redevelopment position and then get appointed to head the new division based on being a friend of Hassan's.

The Mario Lopez thing is true and is a big mess with staff being ordered to use kid gloves on the case.

Looks like all the talk about getting rid of the Zoning Administrator position just to make the organization more efficient was a lie. It was just the first step in the orchestrated attack on Edith Fuentes as Hassan is now trying to demote her further in hopes to push her out of the organization.

Sam Engel is a master of political deception. That is how he keeps neighborhood services alive. If he did not, then they would put him in charge of something else, God forbid.

**From a Vanguardians advisor:** First a special thanks to the newest insider. Thanks for taking the time to let us know what is really going on in our City and how our hard earned tax money is being wasted. And again, thanks to Vanguard for publishing this.

It is especially frustrating to learn of these egregious actions taken by city officials and workers against the people of Glendale.

Is it any wonder that more and more citizens of Glendale are becoming disenchanted with our City Government?

I think what really galls most citizens is the overwhelming sense of entitlement that exists in these and other actions.

In my private job I do not rate, nor am I entitled to compensation if I use a company car to perform my job. In fact if it was found out that I was doing so I would no doubt be "let go."

If our company were to learn that our division was creating a new sub-division to justify and hide over-staffing, the entire division would be revamped, with new management and a mandate to eliminate any over staffing. We call it "downsizing."

"This isn't Hell." It is Glendale, and it's just as bad.

---

**"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**

This week there was the continuation of the shameful display of antipathy by Friedman, Weaver and Najarian towards the stakeholders of Glendale. They approved a ridiculous amount of spending with nary a question and when a question was asked by a colleague, they admonished him. Council needs to look into how GPD is handling the Drayman case and what the DA says about the search warrant.

**Overall rating for the week ending June 4, 2011:**

Weaver	Quintero	Najarian	Friedman	Manoukian
<b>F</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>B</b>

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

---

Email [info@vanguardians.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@vanguardians.org), [vanguardweekly@gmail.com](mailto:vanguardweekly@gmail.com) and [ba@fieldworks.net](mailto: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