

Letter to the Editor

Supervisor accused of wrongful termination

Alameda County Board of Supervisors, and Scott Haggerty as an individual, have been sued by his former long-term (over 15 years) Chief of Staff, Chris Gray, for his wrongful and illegal termination of his employment. The underlying claims submitted to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors were for over \$10,000,000. The County routinely denied Mr. Gray's as they deny all claims, and now face a lawsuit that has been submitted to the Court for filing on Mr. Gray's behalf in the Alameda County Superior Court on Friday, May 3, 2013.

In summary, Mr. Gray was terminated based on the fact that he had taken medical leave from work, and his refusal to participate in Mr. Haggerty's ongoing 15 years of abuse and misuse of public funds, taking illegal loans, receiving illegal payments from the County, triple billing his car allowance expenses, and even being so belligerent as to demand early payment of his salary from County staff and receiving the same.

Mr. Gray has over 15 years of hard cold facts which will clearly reveal the calculated and cunning self-serving nature of Mr. Haggerty's ongoing illegal activities.

Law Offices of John N. Kitta & Associates
Fremont

Ash Jain, MD, appointed to American Heart Association Western States Affiliate Board

SUBMITTED BY GISELA HERNANDEZ

Washington Hospital is pleased to announce the election of Ash Jain, MD, a well-known cardiologist, to the Board of Directors for the American Heart Association Western States Affiliate. The affiliate serves the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

For a term of three years, Dr. Jain will help steer the regional activities of the nonprofit organization in combating heart disease and stroke. Membership on the Board also includes a commitment to support the American Heart Association through the annual Give and Get Leadership Campaign.

"I'm honored to be involved with the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke," said Dr. Ash Jain cardiologist, Medical Director of the Stroke Program, Medical Director of Invasive Vascular Imaging, Medical Co-Director of Cardiac Care Service, and Medical Co-Director of Vascular Services Program. "The American Heart Association's innovative research has paved the way for new technologies and procedures that dramatically improve cardiovascular health, and I look forward helping them continue to make great strides so Americans can live longer, healthier lives."

The newly elected Western States Affiliate Board will convene June 13, 2013 for the first time this fiscal year in Los Angeles, CA.

Hayward named Tree City USA

SUBMITTED BY THOMAS ROSSI, SR.

Hayward has been named a 2012 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. This is the 27th year Hayward has earned the national designation.

The City achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. Hayward will celebrate Arbor Day on May 30, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Treeview Elementary School.

"The Mayor and City Council are deeply committed to increasing Hayward's urban forest density. Last year alone, the City of Hayward planted 350 new trees with plans for 450 more in FY 2014," stated Matt McGrath, Maintenance Services Director.

According to Alex Ameri, Director of Environment and Utilities, Hayward looks to its urban forest as a major part of improving the quality of life in local neighborhoods and helping to achieve the ambitious goals in the City's Climate Action Plan.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like Hayward make smart investments in urban forests," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. For more information, visit www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.



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