

Gregory G. Diaz appointed Ventura's new City Attorney



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The Ventura City Council announces the appointment of Gregory G. Diaz as the new City Attorney. Diaz has served as the City Attorney for the City of Merced since 2001, and is scheduled to begin with the City of Ventura in late September. Diaz replaces Ariel Calonne who left in March after seven years in the position.

"After an extensive search that attracted numerous, well qualified candidates, the Ventura City Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Greg Diaz as our new City Attorney," said Mayor Cheryl Heitmann. "Mr. Diaz brings a wealth of municipal experience that will benefit Ventura. We were impressed with his emphasis on solving problems in a collaborative manner with staff, council and the community. I am sure he will be a great addition to our organization and our community."

Diaz received his B.A. in Public Administration/Political Science from California State University, Long Beach and his J.D. from Western State University, College of Law. He was admitted to the California State Bar in 1991, and spent 10 years in private practice as a contract city attorney at Burke, Williams, and Sorensen, LLP. Prior to becoming an attorney, Diaz spent three years as the Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent of Instruction in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District in Watsonville, CA.

"I am honored to be selected by the City Council to serve as the next City Attorney for Ventura and to be a part of such an outstanding organization. From my first visit to the City, I have been impressed by the City's commitment to public service and to maintaining a high quality of life for City residents. My wife, family, and I are excited about becoming residents of such a dynamic community," said Mr. Diaz.

In accordance with the City Charter, the City Attorney is appointed by the City Council as the chief legal advisor to the City Council, City Manager, all city departments, and all appointed boards and commissions. The City Attorney – with a staff of four Assistant City Attorneys – litigates both civil and criminal cases on the City's behalf.

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