



*City of*  
**SACRAMENTO**  
Office of the City Attorney

Annual Report  
July 2018-  
December 2020



## Our Administration Team

The administration and general support functions of the office are performed under the direction of the City Attorney. The Administration Team is City Attorney Susana Alcalá Wood; Assistant City Attorneys Sandra G. Talbott and Matthew D. Ruyak; Supervising Deputy City Attorneys Gustavo L. Martinez, Brett M. Witter, Jerry Hicks, and Steve Itagaki; Law Office Administrator Angela Kolak; and Special Assistant to the City Attorney Jenny Manzer Beck.

The Administration Team strives to maintain a work environment that inspires excellence and creativity, while rewarding productivity. We promote career enhancement with ongoing training and staff development. The office provides staff the opportunity to obtain needed credits for Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE), as well as other professional-association seminars.

The Administration Team develops and implements office policies and procedures; monitors overall office performance; prepares and administers the office budget; handles all personnel hiring and other personnel matters; assembles and analyzes office productivity data, including production of an annual report; and engages in long-range planning. We prioritize the establishment and maintenance of relationships and trust with our valued City departments and officers.





## Legislation Highlights

Many of the City Council's goals and policies are implemented by the enactment of new resolutions and ordinances or the amendment of existing resolutions and ordinances. The City Council adopted 26 ordinances during FY 2018-2019. The General Counsel & Advisory Section, Strategic Projects & Research Section, Community Advocacy & Public Safety Section, and the Litigation & Human Resources Section assisted City staff in drafting legislation and, where needed, in working through the entire process of developing effective legislation and working with stakeholders and other interested parties. Our Draft Ordinance Review Committee (DORC) held 44 meetings to review 32 various legislative proposals during FY 2018-2019. Below are the issues addressed by ordinances enacted during this past fiscal year.

Highlighted ordinances have completed the DORC process but were not adopted by City Council before the end of FY 2018-2019. The ordinances marked with asterisks were reviewed in FY 2017-2018 and again in 2018-2019.

Additional Real Property Transfer Tax
Auditor's Ordinance
Cannabis Businesses
Cannabis Events
Cannabis Microbusinesses
Delta Shores Impact Fee
Deferring Payment of City Fees on Projects
Density in the R Street Corridor
Digital Billboards in Regional Shopping Centers
Drainage Rate Schedule
Emergency Housing
Establishment of a Local Hire Program
Food Vending Vehicles **
Hotel Panic Buttons
Outdoor Vending
Parking on Legal Holidays

Passenger Loading
Pedicabs
Prohibited Items at Demonstrations
Railyard Fee Credits
Railyards Impact Fee
Residential Rental Mediation Program
Sacramento Creative Economy Commission
Shared Rideable Businesses
Short-term Rentals
Title 17 Bundle
Tobacco Retail Licensing Program
Transit Oriented Development
Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue Bonds
Transit Oriented Development Amendments
Volatile Manufacturing
Youth Commission and Parks and Community Enrichment Commission

# Office Overview

## Budget

Operating Budget for FY 2018-2019: \$9,070,970

Mid-Year Amendment: \$ 9,368,122

### Sources:

General Fund: \$5,661,386

Interdepartmental Funds: \$ 3,382,834

Non-General Fund: \$ 220,091

Revenue: \$ 103,811

In addition to the revenue figure above, the City Attorney collected a total of \$715,057 under Council Resolution # 2009-164 (Justice for Neighbors Operating Project). Those funds are set aside to provide resources to the Sacramento Police Department to combat quality of life crimes under the Social Nuisance Code.

Special Budget Items: The City Attorney set aside \$92,730 from its projected year end savings during the third quarter of FY19. The funds are being used to redesign the interior of the City Attorney suite to accommodate growing staff., without the need to request additional space in City Hall. An organization-wide cleanup, surplus of unused equipment and reorganization of existing space preceded the project launch, which included purchase and design of modular workstations, redesigning breakroom space and under-utilized computer lab for use as a multi purpose collaborative space.



# Community Advocacy & Public Safety Division

This division provides advisory and enforcement services to the Sacramento Police Department (SPD) and the Code Enforcement and Dangerous Housing Division of the Community Development Department. The division partners with enforcement departments to prosecute and abate physical and social nuisances. The division also includes a Criminal Prosecution Unit that prosecutes criminal violations of the City Code.

The mission statement of the division is to fight corrosive social and criminal nuisances that degrade the quality of life in the City. Operating under the "broken windows" theory, the division's aim is to identify, prioritize, and address criminal problems before they grow into serious offenses that can lead to urban decay. The division understands the ability to respond to neighborhood complaints and address criminal problems proactively is critical to improving quality of life in our neighborhoods.

Through the Justice for Neighbors (JFN) program our office has coordinated with the City's enforcement departments, including the Fire and Community Development Departments, to target abandoned structures, nuisance properties, and blight plaguing neighborhoods. The JFN team files lawsuits seeking aggressive and specifically-tailored injunctive relief, including stay-away orders, closure of properties, hiring of security guards, installation of video camera systems, and other improvements to the properties.

For tenant housing our office works with property owners and SPD to expedite the eviction of tenants who engage in narcotics or gun related crimes. Our office reviews arrest reports submitted by SPD notifying landlords of offenses committed by their tenants, and civil remedies against owners who fail to evict these tenants. The office also files eviction actions where owners refuse or are too fearful to evict for related crimes.

## Summary\_2018-2020

Total Matters/Assignments: 2027

Advice: 1073	Cannabis: 308	Contracts approved: 202
Staff Reports Approved: 97	Public Records Act: 181	



## Notable Achievements

**Soo's Spa - 8551 Folsom:** A “massage” establishment on Folsom Blvd. was rumored to be a house of ill-repute. The owners received a warning letter from the police department in 2017. Continuing investigation revealed that as of 2018, it was still operating as an illegal house of prostitution. SPD performed an undercover operation at the location, and an officer was offered sex for money. Arrests for prostitution were made, and a \$4999 administrative penalty was issued to the property owner. The property owner paid this amount in cash to the City. Upon still more evidence that illegal activity was occurring, another undercover operation was done, where, again, sex was offered for money to an undercover officer. SPD made more arrests for prostitution, and issued a \$7,500 fine to the property owner. This time, SPD referred the case to the JFN team for a more permanent solution to the problem. A civil lawsuit was filed against the property owners pursuant to Cal. Penal Code Section 11225, et. seq (The California Red Light Abatement Act). The owners quickly realized that with the amount of evidence gathered against them, this was a lawsuit they couldn't win. The property owners promptly signed a stipulated judgment that prohibited any massage establishments from ever again operating at the location. The owners also filed eviction paperwork against their tenants.

**2900 Clay Street:** A property that was the site of unlawful camping, overgrown weeds, extensive junk and debris, and narcotics activity. The property owners, who reside in Dixon, allowed a modular home to remain vacant for an extended period of time. The windows were covered with plywood, and the plywood with graffiti. Despite serving a Notice and Order upon the property owners, no corrective action was taken. Numerous subsequent attempts to engage the property owners were unsuccessful; they made no efforts to address the violations. Ultimately, the Housing and Dangerous Buildings Division sought legal review of the matter for potential demolition of the modular structure, which was approved. The modular structure was demolished in January 2019, and the parcel remains vacant to date.





**4328 Astoria Street** was the site of an unpermitted pallet reselling business and narcotics activity. Multiple site inspections revealed pallets stacked dozens of feet high, extensive junk and debris, combustible materials, and unlawful occupancy. Narcotics were also discovered on or about the property. The Fire Department issued a stop-work order. Nevertheless, the property owner failed to make a good faith effort to remediate. After attempts by the City Attorney's Office to achieve a negotiated resolution stalled, litigation commenced and resulted in a stipulated judgment imposing a permanent injunction and civil penalties in the amount of \$2,000. The property has since been cleared.



**#KnowYourRights:** The City Attorney's Office partnered with South Problem Oriented Police Officers, community groups and Code Enforcement to present on #KnowYourRights. Facilitators talked with individuals about how our local and state governments operate. The talk was specifically crafted to be helpful to refugee populations. The discussions were held at various Highland Community Charter School campuses. Particular topics included the right to remain silent, the right to discuss your immigration or citizenship status, the right to say no to a search warrant without probable cause, and the right to consult a lawyer before answering any questions. With many in our refugee communities feeling fearful about interactions with police, these discussions fostered goodwill and increased community spirit and morale.





## Notable Achievements

**150 Silver Eagle Road** was initially the site of extensive junk and debris and unlawful occupancy, and worsened to include an unpermitted pallet reselling business, narcotics activity, storage and repair of (likely stolen) automobiles, prostitution, and cannabis cultivation. This property presented perhaps the greatest physical and social nuisances in North Sacramento. After the property owner failed to comply with a notice and order, the City Attorney's Attorney



initiated litigation that resulted in a default judgment imposing a

permanent injunction and civil penalties in the amount of \$103,250. The default judgment provided for appointment of a receiver in the event of failed remediation. Nevertheless, the City Attorney's Office attempted to achieve a negotiated resolution with the property owner. After the condition of the property worsened, however, the City Attorney's Office petitioned the Court for appointment of a receiver. The Court appointed a receiver, who has since cleared and sold the property.



**734 Irving Avenue** was the site of an unpermitted tire reselling business and extensive junk and debris, presenting a substantial fire hazard. After the property owner failed to comply with a notice and order, the City Attorney's Attorney initiated litigation that resulted in a default judgment imposing a permanent injunction and civil penalties in the amount of \$66,250. The default judgment provided for appointment of a receiver in the event of failed remediation. Violations on the property persisted, prompting the City Attorney's Office to petition the Court for appointment of a receiver. The Court appointed a receiver, who has since cleared the property and listed it for sale.



# General Counsel & Advisory Division

The Advisory Section provides legal advice and support to the City Council, all City departments, and staff. The advisory attorneys provide full support for City operations including:

- Drafting and reviewing ordinances and resolutions
- Preparation and reviewing of contractual documents
- Researching federal, state, and local law
- Provide advice at meetings of the Council and City Boards and Commissions

## Summary 2018-2020

Total Matters/Assignments: 4191

Advice: 225	Cannabis: 115	Contracts Approved: 1567
Staff Reports Approved: 669	Public Records Act: 99	

## Notable Achievements

**Sacramento River Parkway:** In 1975, the City developed a Sacramento River Parkway Master Plan with a concept for implementing a bicycle and recreation trail along the Sacramento River. In 1997, the City Council adopted a Sacramento River Parkway Plan Update and accompanying EIR. The goal is to eventually have a trail running all the way from the City limits at Freeport Boulevard up to the American River. This project has always been controversial primarily due to the cost and the need to acquire privately-owned property for the project. Accordingly, staff is proceeding with trail construction in phases. The Council has recently renewed interest in the project. Jerry Hicks, Chance Trimm, and Maila Hansen have been working through the eminent domain negotiations with affected property owners for the next phase, with recognition that litigation may be necessary.


**Panhandle Annexation:** The City Attorney assisted with the “handle” annexation and detachment project that consisted of the concurrent annexation of 589.4 acres into the City and related detachments. After over two decades of contemplation, the project was approved by LAFCO on April 3, 2019. This project is expected to bring mixed-use development consisting of residential, commercial, elementary school, roadways, and park uses north of Del Paso Road.

Step one was to develop an ordinance to adopt Appendix N (California Building Code) and Appendix X (California Residential Code) concerning emergency housing. We assisted CDD with drafting an ordinance adopting Appendix N and Appendix X concerning emergency housing. When there is a declared emergency housing crises, the appendices provide that building standards are relaxed. This would allow the City to more effectively respond to housing needs during a declared emergency housing crises.

Step two was to research concerning gas tax funds. Public Works inquired about the City’s ability to utilize gas tax funds the City receives from the state for the City’s alley closure and abatement program. After significant research into state rules concerning gas tax funds, we advised it was unlikely that the cost for construction and maintenance of gates to restrict traffic would be considered road purposes and gas tax funds could not be used for such purposes.

Step three was looking into the Green Building Standards. City staff has indicated an interest in regulations that eliminate the use of natural gas as an energy source. Over several months, we researched federal, state, and local regulations concerning potential regulations that eliminate the use of natural gas. There is a substantial amount of continuing work and there may be limits on the City’s authority due to both federal and state rules.





**Pathways to Health + Home.** The City's Pathways to Health + Home program (aka Whole Person Care program) wraps up December 31, 2020. Our office has been advising Homeless Services staff for the last 4 years regarding program contracts, funding, and selection of service providers. Whole Person Care is a statewide Medi-Cal waiver program that has allowed communities to create a system of supportive services aimed to improve health outcomes and reduce utilization of high-cost services for vulnerable populations.


**XG Communities:** The City settled litigation and is working with staff to develop the necessary ordinance, guidelines and agreements to allow the City to manage the development of 5G directly with the telecommunications industry.

**Community Workforce Training Agreement:** In coordination with the City Manager's Office and the city's construction contract managers, an agreement has been implemented including updates to contract language, bid language and the development of internal procedures to guide staff through implementation.

**City-Only Arts Commission:** The City decided to withdraw from the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission which was a jointly managed commission between the City and County of Sacramento and was established in 1977. The new ordinance, which was adopted by City Council in August 2019, will have the city-only arts commission support and promote arts within the City. The commission will consist of 11 commissioners who are appointed by Council and the Mayor.

**Greenbriar Project:** Worked with DOU staff and Council members office to resolve a significant dispute between a developer and homeowner's associations over maintenance issues at a water quality detention basin that the City will be accepting via dedication. Our office leveraged that experience to draft an improved Lake Maintenance Agreement template that we recently negotiated.

**Construction Contracts:** Advised DOU staff on handling a significant construction contract claim through the full City process contained in the City specifications. Based on that experience and other recent claims, our office worked with the City's standard specifications committee to draft a revised claim dispute resolution that strengthened the City's process and integrated the recent State-mandated mediation process into the City's standard specifications for construction contracts



# Litigation & Human Resources Division

The Litigation/Human Resources Division provides both litigation and advisory support. Division attorneys represent the City, City Council and staff in all manner of litigated matters, including, civil rights, personal and property damage cases, construction defect, eminent domain and breach of contract. Litigation attorneys work in both the administrative and civil arenas, providing litigation services in arbitration and administrative proceedings, and in both state and federal courts. Division attorneys also provide advisory support to the various divisions in the City's Human Resources Department, including the Office of Civil Rights, Benefits, Class and Compensation, Labor Relations, Workers' Compensation, and Risk Management.

## Summary FY 2018-2019

Total Litigation Cases Opened: 193

Bankruptcy: 1	Cannabis: 32	Civil Rights: 12
Contract: 2	Subrogation-Collection: 7	Tort/Appeal: 58
Writs: 5		

Total Litigation Assignments: 71

Advice: 68	Public Records Act: 10	
------------	------------------------	--

Total HR Cases Opened: 30

Contract: 75	Staff Reports: 31	Subpoenas: 9
--------------	-------------------	--------------

Total HR Litigation Advisory Assignments: 228



## Summary July 2019—December 2020

Total Litigation and HR Cases Opened: 205

Litigation Review: 30	Cannabis: 36	Civil Rights: 19
Contract: 2	Subrogation-Collection: 5	Tort/Appeal: 41
Writs: 14	Labor/HR: 18	PRA: 19

Total HR Cases Opened: 51

Contract: : 25	Staff Reports: 5	
----------------	------------------	--

Total HR Litigation Advisory Assignments: 446

## Notable Achievements

**Litigation Matter 1: (Vail/Bickel):** Plaintiffs filed a writ petition in federal court challenging the City's denial of a cannabis dispensary permit. The handling attorney filed a motion to dismiss at the outset of litigation, obtaining a judgment in favor of the City before undertaking the effort of discovery.

**Litigation Matter 2: (Altstatt/Bickel):** Plaintiff filed a civil rights complaint with 17 causes of action against 13 City employees, including two attorneys in our office, alleging constitutional violations in association with numerous code enforcement actions against the plaintiff's property. The handling attorney successfully filed a motion to dismiss at the outset of litigation, and judgment was entered for the City.

**Cannabis Enforcement:** Worked closely with City staff and the CAPS Division in developing an effective prosecution model for cannabis-related businesses that were out of compliance with the City Code. Litigation/HR attorneys opened XX writ and appeal matters arising from the administrative process.

**Litigation Matter 3 (Everidge/Trimm):** Plaintiff alleged he suffered serious injuries, including brain damage, when he was struck while walking in a crosswalk at night. Plaintiff alleged that the intersection amounted to a dangerous condition of public property. Shortly after commencing discovery, the handling attorney was able to convince plaintiff's attorney to dismiss the lawsuit.

**Litigation Matter 4: (Eminent Domain/Trimm)** City filed eminent domain action to acquire property rights from a private landowner necessary for a school improvement project known as the Babcock School Access Project. The court granted the City's motion to acquire all necessary property rights on the landowner's property by way of an order for prejudgment possession. The City is now moving forward with construction that will enhance safety at Babcock School.

**Litigation Matter 5: (Doughty/Underwood)** Plaintiff was riding his bicycle near the intersection of Franklin Boulevard and Florin Road when a passing Regional Transit bus struck his bike causing serious injuries. While co-defendants paid \$5,000,000 in settlement, the City was dismissed for a waiver of costs.

**Litigation Matter 6: (Humphreys/Underwood)** Petitioner was a City employee that was release from employment during his probationary period. Petitioner filed a claim with the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) alleging violations of the Meyers, Milias, Brown Act, specifically asserting discrimination and retaliation for his protected union activities. The matter proceeded to trial before a PERB Administrative Law Judge that dismissed the Complaint and all charges against the City.

**Litigation Matter 7: (Clark/Underwood)** In 2018 and 2019, an individual began to attend Sacramento City Council meetings, during which he became disruptive of meetings. He then began to make threats to elected officials and police officers assigned as security for the meetings. Division attorneys filed a Petition for Workplace Violence Restraining Order against this individual, and the order was granted, barring the individual from disrupting future meetings for three years.



## Notable Achievements

**Litigation Matter 8: (Transystems/Underwood)** This complex construction defect litigation centered around excessive cracking of the concrete surfaces of both 1,000-foot-long passenger platforms at the Sacramento Valley Station. The City sued the architect, general contractor, and its construction manager for damages, which City experts projected to be in the range of \$6.4 - \$8 million. After a year of mediation, which involved three separate mediation dates and two different mediators, the City settled the case for \$7 million.

**Litigation Matter 9: (Singh/Underwood)** Plaintiffs alleged that the nuisance abatement actions taken against three of their properties amounted to constitutional violations. Division attorneys filed a motion for summary judgment that was granted by the trial court, and judgment was entered for the City. As an aside, one of the plaintiffs was convicted in June, 2019 for falsifying judicial and public records and is set to be sentenced soon.

**Litigation Matter 10: (Munoz/Velasquez)** Plaintiff in this lawsuit alleged that a City police officer, who was working as a School Resource Officer, improperly investigated her criminal allegations resulting in retaliation against the plaintiff. The handling attorney convinced the plaintiff to dismiss the complaint against the officer.

**Litigation Matter 11: (NCBM/Velasquez)** In this lawsuit brought pursuant to the California Public Records Act, the plaintiffs sought records that the City alleged were protected as attorney-client communications. The trial court found that some records had to be produced, but refused to order attorney's fees against the City, as it was another entity that was asserting the privilege. In an important, precedent setting, opinion, the Third District Court of Appeals affirmed the trial court's decision. This decision will have significant impacts on PRA processing statewide.

**Litigation Matter 12: (BROWN/LORCH/Richmond)** This civil rights lawsuit arose from the investigation and eventual arrest of the owners of a muffler shop that the City believed had purchased illegally obtained catalytic converters. Plaintiffs sued the City alleging false arrest and constitutional violations. The case proceeded to trial, but after several days of evidence favorable to the City, the plaintiffs agreed to dismiss the case before verdict was entered.

**Litigation Matter 13: (MAHONEY/Richmond)** An unknown citizen contracted with a portable toilet company to place two portable units on City property, and with the right of way. The toilets were unpermitted and located on City land. After the toilets were removed, a class action lawsuit was filed in which the plaintiffs sought a temporary restraining order preventing the City from taking any action to remove toilets placed for the use of the homeless. After the assigned attorney successfully defended the TRO application, the plaintiffs dismissed their action.




## Notable Achievements

**Litigation Matter 14: (BARSUGLIA/Rogan)** Participated in an investigation into employees using false receipts to purchase work boots which were submitted to the City for reimbursement. Negotiated resignations and suspensions for several employees, and prosecuted the appeal hearing of the supervisor's termination. The arbitrator upheld the termination.

**Litigation Matter 15: (RILEY/Rogan)** Plaintiff sued the City alleging discrimination and retaliation. After extensive discovery, the handling attorney filed a motion for summary judgment. The motion was successful, resulting in judgment in favor of the City.

**Litigation Matter 16: (VARGAS/Rogan)** City employee was a supervisor that was terminated for appointing himself to "out of class" assignments which included 5% pay increase, parking his vehicle in unauthorized locations and failing to disclose criminal convictions on his application. The employee appealed termination. After two days of hearing at OAH, the ALJ upheld the city's termination.





# Strategic Projects & Research Division

The Strategic Projects and Research Division provides legal advice on projects initiated by the City Council or require multi-departmental coordination. SPR attorneys also provide legal advice to the City Council, charter offices, and city departments.

## Summary FY 2018-2019

Total Assignments: 2700

Advice: 1112	Cannabis: 70	Contracts Approved: 968
Staff Reports Approved: 524	Public Records Act: 50	

Total Matters: 159

Advice: 142	Cannabis: 17	
-------------	--------------	--

## Summary July 2019—December 2020

Total Assignments: 651

Advice: 509	Cannabis: 88	Contracts Approved: 383
Staff Reports Approved: 177		

Total Matters:

Advice: 48	Cannabis: 6	
------------	-------------	--



## Notable Achievements

**Sacramento Tourism Infrastructure District (STID)** – Assisted with the formation of the STID, including the settlement of the validation litigation, to build a ballroom associated with the Convention Center Complex. The City is now issuing the first business assessment backed bonds in the history of the State of California. (Massey)

**North Natomas Regional Park Aquatic and Community Center Complex** - Advised on the amendment of the North Natomas Regional Park Master Plan and agreements with the Natomas Unified School District that resulted in the District contributing \$10.6 million in funding for the joint-use facility featuring a 50-meter Olympic size pool. (Patterson)


**Capitol Park Hotel** – Advised on agreements with SHRA and Mercy Housing to facilitate the use of the hotel as a homeless shelter and affordable housing for extremely low-income residents. (Patterson)

**Cannabis Opportunity Reinvestment and Equity (CORE) program** -- Drafted the CORE Program and Study and assisted with negotiations and contracting for the program facilitators. (Anderson-White)

**Railyards Soccer Stadium** – Advised staff on assisting the Railyards developer in creating a legal parcel that could be sold to the MLS investor group for a stadium in the Railyards. (Sparks)

**Sierra Health Pop-Up Agreement** -- Assisted staff with drafting an agreement with Sierra Health Foundation to provide pop-up events and safe spaces for community members in the wake of the District Attorney's announcement of her decision in the Stephon Clark case. (Sparks)

**Retirement of Arco Arena Bonds** – Advised staff on the repayment and retirement of the lease-revenue bonds that were used to acquire Arco Arena in 1997. (Cerullo)







## Notable Achievements


**Tenant Protection and Relief Act** – Ordinance was adopted on August 13, 2019, before the state rent control law AB 1482 was passed. Unlike the state law, the local ordinance includes a pre-eviction hearing process and the tenant's right to lease a comparable unit or the same unit after substantial repairs at the same rental rate. (Patterson)

**Stadium Area Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District** – Formed the first EIFD within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City to support the infrastructure for the proposed MLS soccer stadium. (Massey)

**Convention Center Assessment-Revenue Bonds** — Assisted the City Treasurer's Office with the successful sale of \$55,000,000 in assessment-revenue bonds to finance the construction of a new ball room in the Convention Center. (Cerullo, Massey)

**Entertainment and Sports Complex Sign District** – Drafted the ordinance establishing a special sign district for the Entertainment and Sports Complex which enables the usage of cutting-edge signage around the Downtown Commons and the Golden I Center area. (Cerullo)

**Sacramento LGBT Center Grant** – Prepared the grant agreement to award \$750,000 to the Sacramento LGBT Center to assist it in buying a permanent community center.



## Office Programs

### Law Day:

The City Attorney hosted its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Law Day event on May 1, 2019 at Historic City Hall. The theme, “Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society” featured key speakers from different perspectives on the issue of freedom of the press. Joseph P. Cerullo, Senior Deputy City Attorney, spoke from a historical perspective on free speech and press. Professor Leslie Jacobs, Director, Capital Center for Law & Policy from UOP – McGeorge School of Law spoke on Freedom of Speech and Press: Current Hot Topics. Anita Chabria, reporter from the Los Angeles Times covering California politics and policy, spoke about Current and Future State of Freedom of the Press. This event was an informative and eye-opening perspective of current state of the press and media, as the topic of “fake news” and media influence was a large part of the American political scene at the time.





## Office Programs

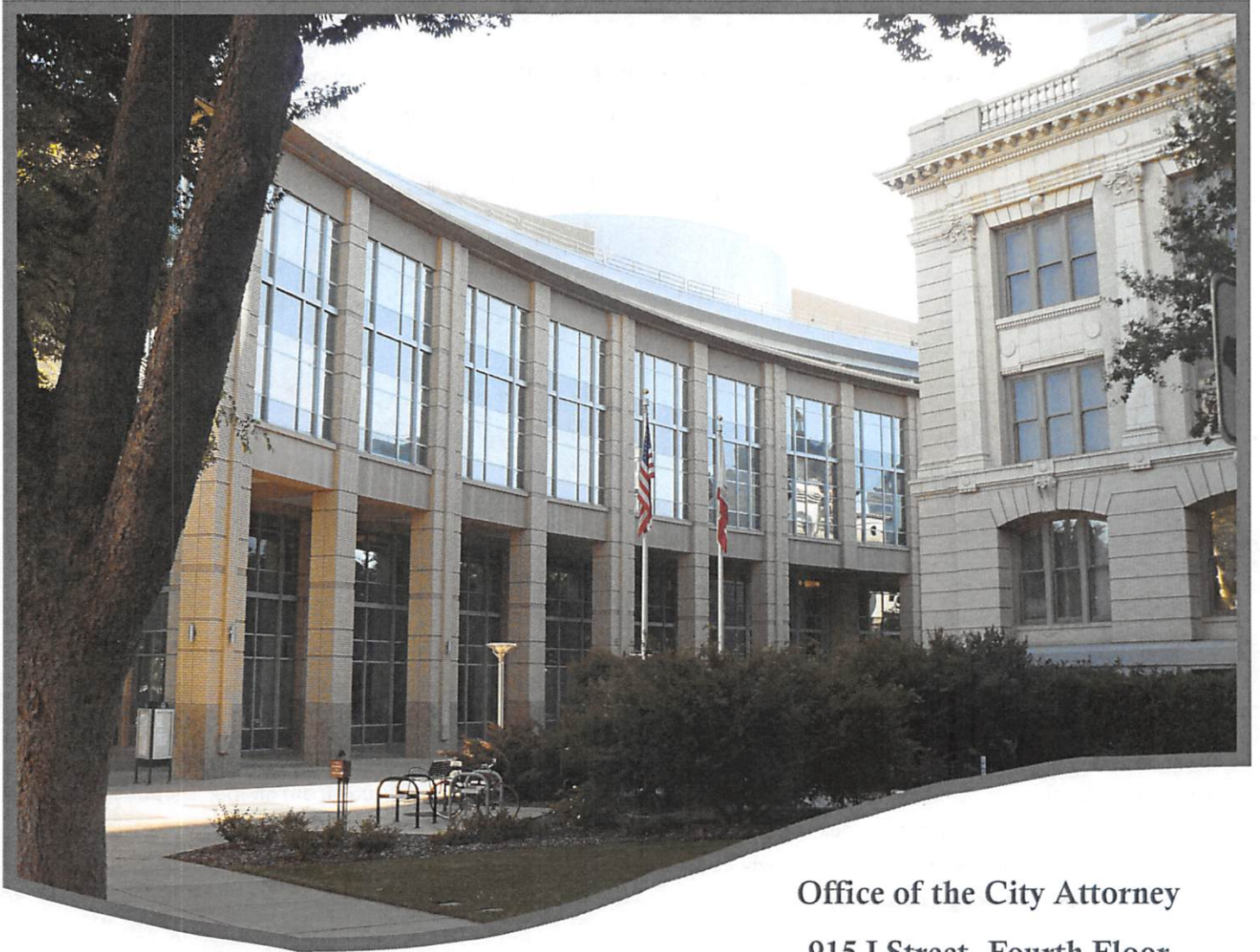
**Christmas Gift for Community:** In both December 2018 and 2019, our office worked with Next Move Homeless Services for our holiday donations. We were able to fulfill two family's needs and wants list.



### Law Clerks:

Our law clerk program continues to thrive, thanks to all of the attorneys who are willing to work with and provide guidance to the students. The majority of the applicants are students from local law schools, University of the Pacific and UC Davis, but we have also had applicants from Berkeley, Pepperdine, University of Virginia, and William and Mary. Our office hosts students year-round, part-time during the school semesters and full-time during the summer. The law clerks are not paid but receive a wealth of experience as they work on issues from all four sections within the office. The law clerks also accompany attorneys to meetings, arbitrations, mediations, depositions, hearings, and trials, all of which help them utilize their newly acquired skills in a professional setting. The office currently has three former law clerks working as attorneys.





**Office of the City Attorney**  
**915 I Street, Fourth Floor**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**

**(916) 808-5346 Phone**

**(916) 808-7455 Fax**