

County of Santa Cruz 709

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

(831) 454-2200 FAX: (831) 454-3262 TDD: (831) 454-2123

JANET K. BEAUTZ
FIRST DISTRICT

WALTER J. SYMONS
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 1/26/99

January 20, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: SUGGESTED PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCT OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
HEARING AND FINAL SELECTION PROCESS

Dear Members of the Board:

I would suggest that we adopt the following procedures to guide the conduct of the public hearing we have scheduled for February 9, 1999, to consider the various candidates for the position of District Attorney. After any opening remarks by Board members, the public hearing would be conducted according to the following ground rules:

1. Each candidate, in alphabetical order, will have an opportunity to address the Board for five minutes. At the conclusion of each candidate's statement, Board members may ask questions of that candidate.
2. Forms to be used by the public for proposing written questions to be asked of one or more candidates will be provided to the public in the rear of the Board Chambers. An announcement of the availability of these forms will be made at the opening of the afternoon's proceedings and periodically thereafter. Proposed questions will be collected and sorted at the conclusion of the candidates' statements and questioning by Board members. Any duplicate questions will be discarded. The Chairperson will ask these questions of the appropriate candidates after the candidates have completed their statements.

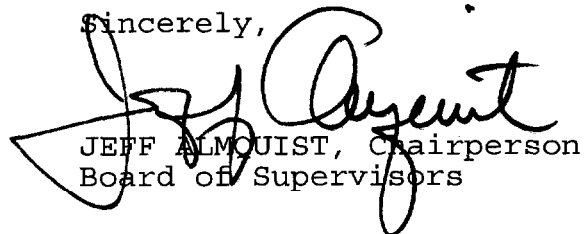
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3. After these questions have been asked on behalf of members of the public, the public will be afforded an opportunity to communicate with the Board, limited to not more than three minutes per person. The aggregate amount of public testimony to be received will be limited to three hours, and that limitation will be set forth in the posted notice. Remarks from the public should be limited to issues and concerns they may have regarding the operation of the office of the District Attorney, attributes that they believe the District Attorney should possess, policies that they believe the District Attorney should follow, and their personal support for or opposition to one or more of the **candidates**. There will not be any opportunity for members of the public to directly communicate with particular candidates during this forum.
4. At the conclusion of the public testimony, each candidate will be given an additional three minute period to provide any closing statement to the Board that he or she wishes.

We have agreed to conduct deliberations to select a District Attorney at a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors which will be held on February 11, 1999, at 1:30 p.m. My understanding of the Brown Act is that the public must be given a further opportunity to address the Board at that meeting, but that we may limit the time in a reasonable manner. I would suggest that we limit further public testimony to 30 minutes, at the conclusion of which the Board should deliberate in open session until a District Attorney has been selected.

I would therefore recommend that the Board adopt the foregoing ground rules for the conduct of the public hearing scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. on February 9, 1999, and for the selection of the District Attorney during the deliberations we have scheduled on February 11, 1999.

Sincerely,



JEFF ALMQUIST, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

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