



# ORANGE COUNTY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

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May 12, 2011

Thomas Hatch  
Chief Executive Officer  
City of Costa Mesa  
77 Fair Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Dear Mr. Hatch:

I am sure by now you have received and read the letter from Terry Francke of Californians Aware to Mayor Monahan dated May 10, 2011, regarding the City Council's violation of the Brown Act. The Orange County Employees Association, on behalf of the Costa Mesa City Employees Association and its members, agrees with and supports Mr. Franke's analysis and conclusions.

The alleged decision by the Council at its March 1, 2011, meeting to outsource City services was based on recommendations made by the City Council Budget Working Group, which consisted of Mayor Monahan and Councilmember Righeimer. The action was taken despite the strenuous objections of Councilmember Leece, city employees, and residents of the community, that it was being taken in haste, without sufficient consideration or disclosure, and without allowing employees or the community to provide sufficient input.

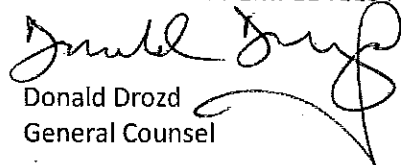
Meetings of the City Council Budget Working Group were held, and communications between members of that working group occurred, in clear violation of the Brown Act. The work product of that working group, including the recommendations made regarding outsourcing at the March 1, 2011, Council meeting are thereby tainted by those violations, and any actions taken by the City Council in reliance on that work product and those recommendations are therefore void.

By this letter OCEA and CMCEA demand that the City cure and correct its Brown Act violation(s) by reversing its March 1, 2011, action allegedly deciding to outsource City services, and immediately rescind all layoff notices issued to City employees pursuant to that action.

We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

ORANGE COUNTY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

  
Donald Drozd  
General Counsel

