



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
County Manager



Date: October 22, 2012
Board Meeting Date: November 20, 2012
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: John L. Maltbie, County Manager
Subject: Employee of the Month for November 2012

RECOMMENDATION:

Honor Glenn Levy as Employee of the Month for November 2012 and authorize the President of the Board to sign the commendation

BACKGROUND:

The Employee of the Month program was established in December 1984 to recognize and honor County employees who consistently demonstrate an outstanding level of performance.

Our Employee of the Month for November 2012 is Glenn Levy a Deputy County Counsel, in the County Counsel's Office.

DISCUSSION:

Glenn has been working for the County since 2008 and is a first rate litigator. In 2011, he received an award from the California State Coroner's Association for his outstanding legal work and the favorable published court of appeals decision he received in the Picon case, which involved novel issues of Coroner liability.

Currently, Glenn handles a high volume of complex legal issues for the Health System, the San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC) and is also a vital member of the Child Protective Services legal team.

During the Burlingame Long Term Care (BLTC) transition, Glenn was an integral part of the transition leadership team. Glenn spotted and researched legal issues ranging from the compliance of federal or state layoff notice rules to the regulatory requirements for notifying nursing home residents of the facility's closure. He also advocated with regulators, working hard to show them how they could help accomplish the goals within the framework of the regulations they had to enforce.

Glenn handled very complex negotiations and contract drafting associated with the multi-party deal to transition BLTC to be managed by a private entity. Glenn was a rock in these turbulent waters, remaining calm and focused during the tensest of moments. Glenn caught issues that had been overlooked and came up with creative language to resolve a particularly sticky issue. He worked long and hard, including on evenings, weekends and vacations, to respond to new issues or new turns as the negotiations occurred. Glenn also knew his limits, and sought others when we he needed advice that was outside the scope of his expertise.

Glenn is all that one could hope for in a lawyer when dealing with such a complicated, time-constrained, and high stakes transaction. He approached this work in precisely the spirit one wants: he was focused on how to facilitate the business needs while ensuring the County stayed out of legal trouble. This transaction saved many nursing beds for low-income county residents, saved many unionized jobs, and saved the County millions of dollars, and it could not have been completed without Glenn's excellent assistance.

Even beyond the work that Glenn has undertaken for his County clients, he has taken the initiative to institute various training and other efforts in his office. He strives to fulfill the role of "counselor," not only advising departments as to the law, but also working with them broadly to address their concerns and business needs.

Approval of the Employee of the Month contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of Prosperous Community by recognizing employees that foster innovation and excellence in the services provided.

Our County is fortunate to have Glenn Levy as one of its outstanding employees.