

ELECTION HISTORY – CITY ATTORNEY, CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Last updated 6/21/2026

OFFICE	CANDIDATE	DATE OF PRIMARY	VOTE COUNT	PERCENT	DATE OF RUNOFF	VOTE COUNT	PERCENT
City Attorney		3/5/2024	231,158		11/5/2024	497,784	
	Heather Ferbert (elected)		122,894	53.16		282,912	56.83
	Brian Maienschein		108,264	46.84		214,872	43.17
City Attorney		3/3/2020	307,662		11/3/2020	571,184	
	Mara W. Elliott (elected)		208,767	67.86		380,291	66.58
	Cory Briggs		71,672	23.30		190,893	33.42
	Pete Mesich		27,223	8.85			
City Attorney		6/7/2016	280,935		11/8/2016	465,857	
	Robert Hickey		81,513	28.98		198,735	42.66
	Mara W. Elliott (elected)		68,020	24.18		267,122	57.34
	Rafael Castellanos		54,319	19.31			
	Gil Cabrera		47,072	16.73			
	Bryan Pease		30,011	10.67			
City Attorney		6/5/2012	182,787		none		
	Jan Goldsmith (elected)		182,787	100.00			
City Attorney		6/3/2008	211,832		11/4/2008	469,663	
	Jan Goldsmith (elected)		68,326	32.25		278,830	59.5
	Michael J. Aguirre		61,257	28.92		189,628	40.50
	Scott Peters		43,295	20.44			
	Brian Maienschein		26,267	12.40			
	Amy J. Lepine		12,687	5.99			
City Attorney		3/2/2004	227,782		11/2/2004	409,895	
	Michael J. Aguirre (elected)		104,610	45.93		206,594	50.40
	Leslie Devaney		63,664	27.95		203,301	49.60
	Deborah L. Berger		59,335	26.05			
City Attorney		3/7/2000			none		
	Casey Gwinn (elected)		139,620	100.00			
City Attorney		3/26/1996			none		

	Casey Gwinn (elected)		122559	100			
City Attorney		6/2/1992	201,324		none		
	John Witt (elected)		102,850	51.09			
	Bruce Henderson		98,474	48.91			
City Attorney		6/7/1988			none		
	John Witt (elected)		130687	100			
City Attorney		6/5/1984	186,527		none		
	John W. Witt (elected)		125942	67.52			
	Mike Schaefer		60,585	32.48			
City Attorney		9/20/1977	147,329		none		
	John W. Witt (elected)		101,221	68.70			
	Rodney R. Jones		46108	31.3			
City Attorney		9/18/1973	112,581		none		
	John W. Witt (elected)		67,993	60.39			
	Jim Webb		44,588	39.61			
City Attorney		9/6/1969			none		
	John W. Witt (elected)		49,362	100.00			
City Attorney		9/21/1965	102611		none		
	Ed Butler (elected)		57903	56.43			
	John C. Van Ven Them		44708	43.57			
City Attorney		1963					
	Richard J. Curran	Was acting City Attorney.					
City Attorney		9/17/1963	107313		none		
	Alan M. Firestone (elected)		54732	51			
	Quintin Whelan		52581	49			
City Attorney		9/20/1961					
	Alan M. Firestone	Was acting City Attorney and appointed by the Council.					

City Attorney		3/10/1959			none		
	Jean F. Du Paul (elected)		56377	100.00			
City Attorney		3/8/1955			none		
	Jean F. Du Paul (elected)		59,295	100.00			
City Attorney		3/13/1951			none		
	Jean F. Du Paul (elected)		54,096	100.00			
City Attorney		3/11/1947			none		
	Jean F. Du Paul (elected)		34044	100			
City Attorney		3/9/1943	33,419		none		
	Jean F. Du Paul (elected)		18,262	54.65			
	Clarence J. Novotny		15,157	45.35			
City Attorney		1/4/1943					
	Clarence J. Novotny	Was appointed by the Governor and took office 1/4/1943.					
City Attorney		3/25/1941	26,590		15088	33357	
	Dayton L. Ault (elected)		19,302	72.59		25172	75.46
	Jean F. Du Paul		7288	27.41		8185	24.54
City Attorney		8/1941					
	Jacob Weinberger	Was appointed by the Governor 8/12/41; sworn in 8/19/1941.					
City Attorney			15,807		13632	19020	
	Dayton L. Ault (elected)		15,243	96.43		18363	96.55
	Earl H. Miller		526	3.33		461	2.42
	Earl Miller					117	0.62
	(Scattering)		38	0.02		79	0.42
City Attorney		4/1936					
	Dayton L. Ault	the Governor 4/9/36; sworn in 4/27/36.					
City Attorney		3/22/1932	23437		4/26/1932	37983	
	Clinton L. Byers (elected)		10,438	44.85		22,189	58.42
	Leland G. Stanford		9,787	44.08		15,794	41.58

	James J. Breckenridge		3,212	11.07			
No elections for the office of City Attorney were held between 1907 and 1932.							
City Attorney					4/2/1907	4144	
	George Puterbaugh (elected)					2083	50.27
	Wm. R. Andrews					1821	43.94
	H. E. Fletcher					240	5.79
City Attorney					4/4/1905	3,738	
	George Puterbaugh					1,571	42.03
	W. R. Andrews (elected)					1659	44.38
	H. E. Fletcher					508	13.59