



**CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT MYRTLE COLE  
FOURTH COUNCIL DISTRICT**

**DATE:** February 2, 2017  
**TO:** Honorable City Councilmembers  
**FROM:** Council President Myrtle Cole *Myrtle Cole*  
**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Dennis Hodges to the Citizens' Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations

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It is my pleasure to nominate Dennis Hodges for appointment as the representative of social service, corrections, probation or other related field category to the Citizens' Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations.

Mr. Hodges worked for the California Department of Corrections as a correctional officer for thirty-two years. In this position, he oversaw the health and safety of staff and prisoners, and physically patrolled and visually inspected units, yards, buildings, prisoners, prisoner property and clothing to ensure their welfare, safety and security.

Through his work as a correctional officer, Mr. Hodges was exposed to the needs of the prisoners. He made a conscious choice to outreach to those in need through the church. During his tenure at New Creation Church, he has served in many capacities, including spiritual advisor and teacher of the Promise Keepers class, leader of the Outreach Ministry and Celebrate Recover Ministry, as well as a mentor to church members.

His connection with the families of the southeast community makes Mr. Hodges a perfect fit for this board. In addition, having served as a chaplain of the San Diego Police Department, Mr. Hodges acknowledges the importance of strong relations among the community and police.

It is my hope that you appoint Dennis Hodges as the representative of social service, corrections, probation or other related field category to the Citizens' Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations.

cc: Honorable Councilmembers  
Francis Barraza, Director of Appointments  
Erin Demorest, Director of Legislative Affairs

## **Dennis Hodges, Senior Pastor**

### **EDUCATION**

Pastor Hodges received his formal education at Morgan Park High School, Southern Illinois University, and the International Theological Seminary at Bradenton, Florida. Pastor Hodges is a graduate from Ashford University, BS Degree in Criminal Justice. Honorary Doctorate Degree, Dyer Times Ministries Bible Training Center.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

A former correctional officer for thirty-two years, Pastor Hodges worked his way up through the California Department of Corrections holding progressively more responsible positions such as Investigator and he retired as a Special Agent/Captain with the Special Service Unit-Office of Correctional Safety on September 1, 2008.

Upon joining New Creation in September 1993, Pastor Hodges' heart to serve caused him to become a member of the Usher Board where he was then elected president from 1994 through 1996. He currently holds the position as spiritual advisor for the southeast San Diego Usher Board. Also, in 2001, Pastor Hodges was appointed Chaplain of the City of San Diego Police Department.

In 1998, Senior Pastor Reginald Gary of New Creation Church, tasked Pastor Hodges to teach the Promise Keepers class. Pastor Hodges' passion for the souls of men and his love of a challenge have lead him to be a "fisher of men."

While attending New Creation Church, Pastor Hodges oversaw the Adjunct Ministry, which provided pastoral leadership with men and women who were anointed to protect and serve the Senior Pastor and the church ministry. Pastor Hodges also provided leadership for the Outreach Ministry known as the SWAT Team (Saints Witnessing Against The Enemy).

On May 16, 1999, Pastor Hodges was licensed as a minister of the Gospel. Pastor Hodges was ordained a Pastor on September 25, 2005.

On November 2, 2009, Pastor Hodges was appointed by Amos Johnson, Pastor Emeritus of New Creation Church, to lead and shepherd, the "Celebrate Recovery" ministry. This is a ministry of helps which supports others struggling with life issues.

### **PERSONAL BACKGROUND**

For nearly 25 years, Pastor Hodges and his wife Deborah have set out to live the God-given dream of a Kingdom marriage. Together they share five children and two grandchildren. A native of Chicago, Illinois, Pastor Hodges grew in his faith early by attending Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church. Pastor Hodges' motto is "Look up, Look within, Look ahead, Look around, as you go to serve the Lord with Gladness. He believes that there are no "secret service" Christians; we are to live, walk, and talk the gospel daily.