



**OFFICE OF MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
CITY OF SAN DIEGO**

MEMORANDUM

DATE : November 5, 2012

TO : Council President Tony Young & Honorable Members of the
San Diego City Council

FROM : Mayor Jerry Sanders

SUBJECT : Appointment to the Human Relations Commission

It is my pleasure to appoint Dr. Susan M. Thomson to the Human Relations Commission, subject to City Council confirmation.

Dr. Susan M. Thomson has held a number of presidential Board Positions throughout the educational system of San Diego. She is also a local counseling therapist in La Jolla and has been working with substance abuse clients for the last 20 years. Formerly, she was an educational specialist in the area of learning challenges and emotional disabilities for young school children. She received a first Master's degree from the University of Arizona followed by a second Master's degree and Doctoral degree and training from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. While living in New Orleans, she received the Mayors Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Services and was also presented the YMCA Role Model of the Year Award.

Dr. Thomson has been deeply committed to philanthropy through her participation in San Diego's own Vista Hill Foundation. She chaired their annual gala for three consecutive years (2001-2004) in which more money was raised each year for the Don Allen Parent Care Family Recovery Center and other Vista Hill programs. Through her philanthropic efforts, she has reached out to those in need across all ethnic and racial diversities.

Dr. Thomson's involvement in the educational system has been significant. She taught school for three years in the area of learning disabilities in a specialized resource center. In San Diego, she was Board President of The Children's School for two consecutive years and later was instrumental in the launching of a new Charter School in La Jolla aptly named Explorer Elementary. Her fund raising efforts allowed the Charter School to become realized and remain the success it is today. She later became President of the Board of Explorer Elementary.

Appointment to the Human Relations Commission
November 5, 2012
Page 2

In 2009, as President of the Parents' Association of The Bishop's School, she lead the community in celebrating the school's 100 year anniversary and the retirement of its 25 year head, Mike Teitelman. Her commitment to the educational and emotional needs of the San Diego community has been significant and continues to this day.

I ask that you confirm this appointment and join me in thanking this individual for her willingness to serve the City of San Diego in this capacity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JSL', with a stylized, cursive script.

JERRY SANDERS
Mayor

JS:dg

cc: City Attorney Jan Goldsmith
City Clerk Elizabeth Maland