



San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

NEWS RELEASE

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CITY WINS ANOTHER PENSION LAWSUIT

San Diego, CA: The City of San Diego has won a court victory against San Diego Municipal Employees Association and former MEA President Judie Italiano regarding “Presidential Leave”. Superior Court Judge Joel Pressman’s ruling (attached) granted the City’s motion for summary judgment finding that Ms. Italiano was not entitled to an annual pension from the San Diego City Employees Retirement System (SDCERS) based on her salary as a union president or damages against the City for refusing her pension. Judge Pressman ruled that whatever pension benefits granted to her violated San Diego City Charter sections 141 and 143.1.

The ruling is the latest in a series of wins by the City in pension cases where the Courts have strictly enforced the City Charter. “This decision demonstrates, once again, that judges are consistently enforcing the terms of the San Diego City Charter on pension matters,” said City Attorney Jan Goldsmith. “The message is clear, consistent and correct—our City Charter must be followed.”

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