



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

STATEMENT

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Councilmember Gloria on the Supreme Court's Refusal to Hear Boy Scouts' Challenge

SAN DIEGO, CA (May 4, 2010) – San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria today issued the following statement about the U.S. Supreme Court's refusal to hear the Boy Scouts' challenge of a decision that the City of San Diego could not subsidize the group with a \$1 per year lease of property in Balboa Park because the organization is religious in nature.

"The U.S. Supreme Court's refusal to hear the Boy Scouts' appeal brings this case one step closer to resolution," said Councilmember Todd Gloria. **"I look forward to the day when all people, regardless of their religion or sexual orientation, may participate fully in the Boy Scouts. Until that time, the public's property should not be used to benefit organizations that discriminate."**

The issue brought to the Supreme Court was the standing of the plaintiffs of the case, a lesbian couple and an agnostic couple. By refusing to hear the challenge, their standing is intact.

The Federal District Court ruled several years ago that the City's practice of providing public parkland to a group formally excluding atheists, agnostics, gays and lesbians from its membership was not religiously neutral and therefore violated the constitutional requirement for the separation of church and state. The Boy Scouts' appeal of that decision is awaiting a decision from the Ninth Circuit.

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