

MAYOR KEVIN L. FAULCONER CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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NEWS RELEASE

Faulconer Introduces Communications Team

Three-member team will handle press duties

San Diego, CA – Mayor Kevin Faulconer announced today that his communications team will consist of a longtime aide, a former U-T San Diego reporter and a Capitol Hill veteran.

Matt Awbrey will lead the team as Deputy Chief of Staff & Chief of Communications while Craig Gustafson and Charles Chamberlayne will serve as press secretaries.

Awbrey has served in several roles under Faulconer since he was first elected to the City Council in 2006. A San Diego native, he rose from a council representative to chief of staff of the council office before leaving to be the main spokesman for Faulconer's mayoral campaign. Awbrey will oversee Faulconer's communications team and serve as the media's point of contact on Faulconer's major projects and initiatives.

Awbrey can be contacted at <u>mawbrey@sandiego.gov</u> or 619-929-0089.

Gustafson is a former U-T San Diego reporter who covered local politics for the past decade, writing articles about nearly every facet of city government. The University of Minnesota graduate previously worked as a reporter for the Associated Press in Minneapolis. He'll handle requests related to city finances, transportation, environmental services and infrastructure projects.

Gustafson can be contacted at cgustafson@sandiego.gov or (619) 236-7064.

Chamberlayne, who worked on Faulconer's mayoral campaign, is a 10-year veteran of Capitol Hill who has worked for three U.S. senators, including Texas Sen. John Cornyn and former House Speaker Dennis Hastert. He holds a double degree in history and political science from Howard University and is studying for his master's degree in communications at Johns Hopkins University. He'll handle requests related to neighborhood services, internal operations, planning, libraries and parks.

Chamberlayne can be contacted at <u>chamberlayne@sandiego.gov</u> or (619) 533-6396.