

MAYOR KEVIN L. FAULCONER CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, February 5, 2015

CONTACT: Craig Gustafson at (619) 453-9880 or <u>cgustafson@sandiego.gov</u>

NEWS RELEASE Faulconer Appoints Chief Information Officer Role Key to Mayor's Initiatives to Make City More Innovative, Efficient

San Diego, CA – Today Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer announced the appointment of Jonathan Behnke as the Chief Information Officer for the City of San Diego.

Behnke has been a manager in the City's Information Technology (IT) department since 2011 and has served as San Diego's Interim IT Director and CIO since July 2014.

"Under his leadership as our Interim Chief Information Officer, Jonathan Behnke has shown us his commitment to making sure our City is a responsive and results-driven organization that is focused on serving all our residents efficiently and effectively," Mayor Faulconer said. "He is the kind of innovative leader who strives to find new ways to make our City government operates with customer service values using 21st century technologies."

In his interim role, Behnke has pursued the modernization of the City's data centers by increasing the capabilities of a private cloud solution that will decrease support expenses and keep City systems active in the event of natural disasters. He has placed an emphasis on the security of the City's data as well. He led his team to decrease vulnerabilities and increase cyber security throughout City applications.

"I'm really excited to be able work with Jonathan on innovative IT initiatives like the website redesign that will give citizens better and easier ways to interact digitally with City government," said Jeff Johnson, San Diego Tech Entrepreneur and member of Code for America. "I think he's the right guy to make sure mission critical systems continue to run smoothly and efficiently."

Behnke has placed an emphasis on customer service and partnered with representatives from San Diego's open source community to find potential efficiencies for City systems.

He brings over 20 years of IT experience managing and implementing technology for a broad range of industries including contract services, oil, construction, automotive, manufacturing and public sector. Behnke has managed large application portfolios and specializes in maximizing efficiencies to reduce support expenses. Originally from Wisconsin, he obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Wisconsin Lutheran College.

###