

# City Manager Newsletter By TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

*"Providing thread to help stitch together the fabric of the  
City Management Community"*

October 2021

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Volume No. 14: Issue No. 17



**Kevin O'Rourke, Rachael Sanders and Mitch Barker** of **Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS)**. For more than 35-years, **PARS** has provided retirement plan and trust solutions designed exclusively for public agencies. Mitch is the **PARS** Executive Vice President, Rachel is a Senior Manager, Consulting, and Kevin is a Senior Municipal Consultant. Kevin is a retired Fairfield City Manager, and former ICMA Regional Vice President and past President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities. Mitch is the 2016 CCMF Corporate Sponsor Award recipient, and Kevin was the recipient of the 2005 CCMF City Manager Award.

## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster

In partial response to a reader's suggestion, we have pieced together a list of City Managers who have worked for the City of Fairfield in Solano County. We may have missed someone, and we apologize if we did. Please recognize our research time constraints and copy space.

Fairfield is in the North Bay area of San Francisco Bay. It is generally at the mid-point between Sacramento and San Francisco. It is the home of Travis Air Force Base. Fairfield incorporated in December 1903. Its 2019 estimate population is 117,133.

Some career profiles of city managers and other public agency staff members are unavailable online. Some refrain from posting profiles, making their information hard to find. Please believe we try to present good information. Again, apologies to those we miss.

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Retired City Managers **Gregory Korduner** and the late **Howard Chambers** at a past "Proof of Life" lunch in La Mirada. The Southern California group met on Thursday, September 30. This picture was taken on Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

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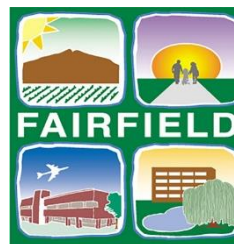
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**Kevin O'Rourke, Senior Consultant** (707) 249-5356 or [kevin@kolgs.com](mailto:kevin@kolgs.com)

## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster



Fairfield was founded in 1856 by clipper ship Captain **Robert H. Waterman**. He named the new community for his hometown of *Fairfield, Connecticut*. In addition to being known as the home of Travis Air Force Base, Fairfield

is also the site of the headquarters of Jelly Belly jellybeans, a favorite candy of former U.S. President **Ronald Reagan**.

### Fairfield City Manager Contact Information

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Fairfield, California, 94533  
**Phone:** 707-428-7400



<https://gonsalvi.com/>

Joe Gonsalves said: "Lobbyist are like parachutes; you don't need them often but when you do they had better work."

**Anthony, Jason and Paul Gonsalves** are expert local government lobbyists. The firm represents fifty-plus cities and is a key player in city legislation. The firm works closely with the League of California Cities.



**Anthony Gonsalves** is a longtime member of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF) Board.

"Jason, A million thanks to you and your firm for all your help on the adventure! Simply amazing what you guys have done."

--**Gary Nordquist**, City Manager

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FAX: 916-441-5061  
925 L Street, Suite 250  
Sacramento California 95814

## Trackdown Posse Roster

### Executive Level Posse Roster:

**Wade McKinney**, Retired Indian Wells City Manager  
**Mike Sedell**, Retired Simi Valley City Manager  
**Larry F. Pennell**, Retired City Manager, Wasco  
**Kevin O'Rourke**, KOLGS/PARS; Retired City Manager  
**Glenn Southard**, Retired CM, Indio & Claremont  
**Joe Tanner**, Retired Vallejo City Manager  
**Guy Huffaker**, Retired Porterville City Manager  
**Vern Lawson**, Retired, Lancaster  
**Gary K. Sloan**, Retired La Mirada City Manager  
**Robert T. Dickey**, Retired South Gate DPW  
**Doug Dunlap**, Retired City Manager, Pomona  
**Rita Geldert**, Retired City Manager, Vista  
**Dale Geldert**, Retired CDF Director, State of CA  
**Anthony D. Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**  
**Jason Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**  
**Paul Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**  
**Greg Devereaux**, Retired City Manager  
**Dr. Richard Rowe**, Retired City Manager  
**Paul Phillips**, Former City Manager, Bell  
**Lloyd de Llamas**, Retired City Man./**HdL** Cofounder  
**John Shirey**, Retired City Manager, Sacramento

### Posse Roster:

**Gregory Korduner**, Retired City Manager  
**Dave Carmany**, West Covina, City Manager  
**Don Penman**, Retired City Manager, Arcadia  
**Sam Olivito**, Interim Executive Director, ICA  
**Roy Pederson**, ICMA Past-President  
**Gary Milliman**, Retired City Manager, Brookings, Oregon  
**Rod B. Butler**, Jurupa Valley, City Manager  
**Ray Harris**, Ret. County Official, & Hawaiian Gardens CM  
**Lee C. McDougal**, Retired Montclair City Manager  
**Mark Scott**, Lincoln Interim City Manager  
**Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia**, Retired Rocklin City Manager  
**Jeff Mathieu**, Retired Big Bear Lake, City Manager  
**Ray Taylor**, Retired City Manager, Westlake Village  
**Denise Ovrom**, Former CM retired from **HdL Companies**  
**Jim Lewis**, City Manager, City of Pismo Beach  
**Cynthia Kurtz**, Retired City Manager, Pasadena  
**Ron Molendyk**, Retired City Manager Lake Elsinore  
**Doug LaBelle**, Retired City Manager, Chino Hills  
**Kevin Duggan**, Retired City Manager, Mountain View

### City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown Management



Jack A. and Susan Simpson

[www.trackdownmanagement.net](http://www.trackdownmanagement.net)

[jack@trackdownmanagement.net](mailto:jack@trackdownmanagement.net)

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## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster

**Byron Gale Wilson**, born in July 1929, passed away at his Auburn home on September 1, 2020. Gale served as City Manager for 32-years; from March 1956 until August 1988. He was appointed City Manager at the age of 26. Prior to moving to Fairfield, B. Gale served as Assistant City Manager in the City of Buena Park (January 1954-January 1956). He celebrated his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday in July 2020. Well-liked by the community, there is a *B. Gale Wilson Boulevard*, and a school named for him. It has been said that Gale was the architect of what Fairfield has become over the years. When he passed away, he was survived by 10 children and many grandchildren. He earned a BS from Brigham Young University. He was presented with an ICMA Distinguished Service Award in 1988.



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[John@synchroniCITYassociates.com](mailto:John@synchroniCITYassociates.com)

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**Margaret Clark** of the Rosemead City Council; **Frank G. Tripepi**, former Rosemead City Manager and a Senior Vice President with Willdan; Frank's wife **Rhonda Tripepi**; and **Gloria Molleda**, Rosemead City Manager at a dinner for participants of the 2021 California Contract Cities Annual Seminar.



**Jim Madaffer** of San Diego and League of California Cities past President and retired City Manager **John Russo** at the 2021 Annual League Conference. Jim is the CEO of Madaffer Enterprises Inc. and John is the founder of **SynchroniCITY**.



Retired City Manager **Dennis Courtemarche** and his wife **Kathy Courtemarche** with their new puppy, Baby **Doug**, a Miniature Australian Shepherd from Buellton. Dennis retired in 2006 from Pico Rivera.



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"Quality begins on the inside...then works its way out."

---**Bob Moawad** of the Edge Learning Institute

## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster

**Charles "Charlie" A. Long**, a mixed-use developer in the Bay Area, served as the City Manager in Fairfield between September 1988 and May 1996. He came to Fairfield in March 1978 working in redevelopment until October 1981, when he was appointed to the Director of Finance position. Charlie became Assistant City Manager in November 1984, and he stepped up to serve as Acting City Manager in 1988 before he was made Fairfield City Manager in September of that year. Since leaving Fairfield, Charlie has served as Interim City Manager in Pinole and Hercules and as Interim Town Manager in Mammoth Lakes. Charlie earned a BA from Brown University in Rhode Island, and a MPP from the University of California, Berkeley. He served in the United States Army as an infantry sergeant.



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**Fran Mancía** may be reached at 559-288-7296. Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). Fran was elected as a University of California Alumni Regent in 2016.



## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster

**Gerald R. Davis** was appointed Interim City Manager in Fairfield in June 1996. Jerry began his public service career in 1962 as a Personnel Tech in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He joined the city staff in Vallejo in July 1965 as Assistant to the City Manager. In December 1966 he was promoted to Assistant City Manager in Vallejo. He left there in June 1971 to become the City Manager for Fridley, Minnesota. He returned to Vallejo in August 1973 as City Manager. He left that assignment in September 1978 and worked in private business until his appointment as Interim City Manager in Fairfield. Jerry earned a BA from Washington State College and an MGA from the University of Pennsylvania. He was born in June 1935.



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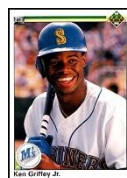


This picture is by retired City Manager **Mark Ochendusko**. He writes: It's all fun and games until...someone loses an ear. This is a mature black bear in the Grand Tetons. He was up in a huckleberry bush, loading up preparing for winter hibernation. This portrait shows how hard life is in the wild, he somehow lost an ear. Patty drove and I road in the backseat to make this image. We saw six bears in Grand Tetons, one of which was a grizzly.

## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster



**Kevin O'Rourke**, a graduate of La Salle University, is the owner of KOLGS, a management consulting firm based in Fairfield. Kevin is an ICMA Credentialed Manager, retired. After graduating from college, Kevin worked in the private sector for a couple of years before he joined the city staff in Stanton in 1977 as the Director of Human Resources. In 1981 he was elevated to Assistant to the City Manager, and in 1982 he was appointed Stanton City Manager and City Clerk. Kevin left Stanton in 1985 and accepted the position of City Manager in the City of Buena Park. After a dozen years in Buena Park, Kevin was recruited to serve as the City Manager in the City of Fairfield starting in 1997. Kevin retired from Fairfield in 2008 and established his own consulting firm, KOLGS. Kevin served as Interim City Manager in Stockton (2009-2010), Interim City Manager in Woodland (2011-2012), and Interim City Manager in Santa Ana in 2013. He also served as the General Services Director in the County of Solano in 2010-2011. Kevin received a 30-year ICMA Service Award in 2007. He served on the ICMA Executive Board as a Regional Vice President in 2000-2003, and as President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities in 1997-1998. Kevin is a former member of the CAL-ICMA Board, and he was a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). Kevin is currently a Senior Consultant for **PARS** (707-249-5356).



"When you have fun, it changes all the pressure into pleasure."

--**Ken Griffey, Jr.**



## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster



**Sean P. Quinn** served as an Economic Development Specialist for the Park Community Services starting in 1981. He worked for the City of Fairfield as the Assistant Director of Planning between 1985 and 1992. Then he worked as the

Principal of the Sean Quinn Associates in 1992-1994. Sean returned to the City of Fairfield in 1994 as the Director of Community Development, and he was selected to serve as City Manager in 2007 and worked in that post until he retired in 2014. Sean then went to work for the Solano EDC as a Consultant. He was appointed Interim President/CEO of the Solano Economic Development Corporation in August 2021. He earned a BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and completed graduate work in business at California State University, Chico. Sean received a 30-years ICMA Service Award in 2013. Sean is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).



A beautiful Coachella Valley desert sky!



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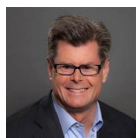
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## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster



**David White** resigned his position as Fairfield City Manager May 2019 so he could accept the Deputy City Manager position in the City of Berkeley. David was appointed Fairfield City Manager in June 2014 when City Manager

**Sean Quinn** retired. Prior to becoming City Manager, David served as the Director of Finance and Assistant City Manager starting in February 2013. He came to work for the City of Fairfield in 2004 as a Senior Project Manager in the Economic Development Department. Before joining the Fairfield city staff, David worked as an investment banker in New York and San Francisco. He also worked in real estate and urban economics. David was selected to serve as the City Manager in the City of Santa Monica August 2021. He replaces City Manager **Rick Cole**, who resigned in April 2020. Interim City Managers served since Rick left. David is from the Los Angeles area and earned a BA in psychology and anthropology from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**), and a master's degree in city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).



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**Monica Davis**, President, Community Services  
Manager, City of Hayward

## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster



**Stefan T. Chatwin** served as an officer in the United States Air Force from 1993 to 1999. After working in the private sector from 1999 to 2001, he joined the city staff in Ogden, Utah in 2001 as the Director of Community Services. In 2004 Stefan became the

City Manager in Santaquin, Utah, serving in that position until 2008. Santaquin was originally settled in late 1851. The 2019 estimated population of the city is 12,865. Stefan became City Administrator in Hayden, Idaho in 2009; a city with an estimated population of 15,434. Stefan worked there until he came to California in 2016 to become the City Manager in Imperial. He started his Fairfield City Manager tenure on December 30, 2019. Stefan earned a BA in international relations from Brigham Young University. He received a 10-year ICMA Service Award in 2013. He is an ICMA Credentialed Manager.



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**Debbie Smith**, Executive Director

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## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster



Fairfield Assistant City Manager **David Gassaway** began his public services career in May 2009 as a Management Analyst in the City of Rancho Cordova. He worked as the Rancho Cordova Assistant to the City

Manager from April 2013 until May 2014 when he took a similar position in the City of Indian Wells. In July 2016 David became the Community Development Director in Indian Wells. In April 2019 he was appointed City Manager in the City of Solvang. He left there after only six-months and became a City Manager in transition. He worked as a Special Projects Coordinator for the City of Pismo Beach in 2020. He left City Manager **Jim Lewis'** office in March 2020 to become the Assistant City Manager (Community and Economic Development) in the City of Fairfield. David earned a BA from San Diego State University and an MPA from the University of San Francisco School of Management.



Mount San Antonio, commonly known as "Mount Baldy" is a peak in the San Gabriel Mountains. It lies in the Angeles National Forest. The iron plaque was installed in the late 1930's by the CCC. Winter hikes along Mt. Baldy's Devil's Backbone have taken many lives of unprepared hikers. The summit provides a challenging hike. Be careful out there!

## City of Fairfield City Manager Roster

It is difficult to think of writing about Fairfield public management without including retired longtime Solano County Administrator **Michael D. Johnson**. Mike retired as the Solano County Administrator in 2011 after 38-years; 19-years at the helm of Solano County. He came to Solano County, with its offices in Fairfield, in 1992. He had previously worked as the Chief Executive Officer for Shasta County for five years. Mike began his public service career in May 1972 as an Administrative Assistant in Boulder, Colorado. In July 1972. In July 1973 Mike went to work for San Mateo County as an Administrative Analyst. In July 1975 he was promoted to Senior Administrative Analyst. Mike became the Executive Officer to Monterey County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) in December 1977. He was hired as the Monterey County Deputy Administrative Officer in April 1981 and became the Assistant Administrative Officer in July 1983. Mike left Monterey County in November 1987 to become the Chief Executive Officer in the County of Shasta. He worked there until he joined Solano County in August 1992. Michael has served in several leadership positions with the County Administrative Officer's Association of California (CAOAC), California State Association of Counties (CSAC), National Association of Counties (NACo), National Association of County Administrators (NACA), and the Cal-ICMA. From 2004 to 2005 Mike served as President of both the CAOAC and Cal-ICMA.

"Running into a city manager that was never terminated from employment would probably be a rarity."

--**Tom Westbrook**, Red Bluff Community Development Director & Former Ceres City Manager,



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**Matt Knabe**, Managing Partner



Honored to have Pismo Beach City Manager **Jim Lewis** visit us at our new location in Rancho Mirage. Always nice to be remembered.





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Investing in our communities



**Picking Up the Pieces:** Former Hermosa Beach Chief of Police **Sharon Papa** is the new Interim City Manager in the City of Palos Verdes Estates following the resignation of City Manager **Laura Guglielmo**. Laura was appointed City Manager in May 2020.

She left to accept the position of Assistant Executive Officer for the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA). Sharon served as the Hermosa Beach Chief of Police from October 2013 to October 2019. Sharon earned a BS in business management from the University of Redlands. Sharon had a 40-year law enforcement career, retiring in October 2019. Prior to Hermosa Beach, she worked with the Los Angeles Police Department. Palos Verdes Estates is retaining an Executive Recruitment firm to help find a new City Manager. Retired Baldwin Park CEO/City Manager **Shannon Yauchzee** is the new Interim City Manager in the City of Fontana replacing City Manager **Mark Denny**, who announced his resignation earlier in September. Shannon previously served as the Public Works Director in the City of West Covina for 18-years. Pasadena City Manager **Steve Mermell** will retire with his last day in office on December 2, 2021. Steve has worked for the City of Pasadena for nearly 33-years; his last 5-years as City Manager. He started with Pasadena in 1989, became the Interim City Manager in February 2016, getting the permanent appointment about a year later. He said, "I'm old enough to retire and young enough to get better at golf." Assistant City Manager **Nicholas Rodriguez** has labelled Steve as "humble and humorous." San Jose Deputy City Manager **Lee Wilcox** is the new Assistant City Manager working with City Manager **Jennifer Maguire**, who previously served as Assistant City Manager. Lee will also assume the responsibilities of the city's Chief Operating Officer. He earned a Master of Public Administration in Public Policy and Administration in Local Government from the University of Colorado, Denver. He earned a BA from Sonoma State University. He is a former Chief of Staff for former San Jose City Council Member **Nancy Pyle**.



Here is the youngest Trackdown grandchild, Two-year old Lei Lei of Buena Park. Her Daddy works at the Raw Performance gym in Los Alamitos. Thumbs up from Lei Lei.

## Letters and Notes from Our Readers:

Thanks for the shoutout again. Hope all is well with you. Have you moved into your new home yet? We will be neighbors. We are in Desert Falls Country Club.

--**Dave Caretto**

You should have received the notice on. **Vern Hazen**'s passing away. Kevin sent it on his list and I would be most grateful if you would send it on your SoCal list if you have not already done so.

--**Rod Wood**

As many ex-city folks do I occasional watch city council videos from the cities where I have worked. Mostly to see how these cities are doing and also to watch some of the hilarious things that are discussed. Public Comments can bring out some interesting people to the podium as you know.

With all the stress and disfunction that goes on in cities these days I thought it might be fun to add a section to your city manager newsletter that has links to funny situations that take place in a council meeting. I was watching the City of San Bernardino Council Meeting from July 21st of this year and about 47:30 minutes in there were two speakers, sunburnt to a crisp, talking about climate change. It was hilarious. You should pull it up.

Just an idea. Others can contribute to the links and it might be fun for our city government family to watch!

--**Bill Manis**

NOTE: We have no problem doing this if someone wants to provide the content.



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**More Pieces Picked Up:** ICMA Senior Advisor **Kevin C. Duggan** received a 45-year ICMA Service Award in 2018. Kevin began his long and storied career in 1971 as an Intern in the City of Mountain View. In 1972 he worked an internship in the City of Campbell, where he was hired as a full-time staff member in 1973. After working his way up in the

organization, Kevin became the Campbell City Manager in 1984. Kevin returned to Mountain View as City Manager in 1990 and left that position in 2011. Kevin then served as the West Coast Regional Director for ICMA from 2011 to 2019 when he became Senior Advisor. Kevin earned a BA and MPA from San Jose State University. He served as the President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities in 2008-2009. An entry in the November 17, 1989 Bellflower "Week in Review:" Last weekend, Senior Animal Control Officer **Steve King** got a "man needs help with a hawk" call. While travelling on a local freeway with the driver's window down, a pigeon flew by the driver's left ear and killed itself against the car's rear window. If that wasn't frightening enough, upon hearing a funny noise, the driver checked the back seat to discover a full grown hawk standing there within arm's length staring at him, eyeball to eyeball. The hawk apparently followed the pigeon through the window at high speed. Steve retrieved it and delivered it for wing repair.

**SHORTS:** \*Retired Whittier City Manager **Jeff Collier** has started a new job as the Interim Deputy City Manager and Interim Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Fullerton. \***Randi Stover**, who earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Long Beach, is the Deputy City Manager in the City of Alhambra. \*Half Moon Bay City Manager **Bob Nisbet** received a three-year employment agreement extension and salary increase in September. \***Jenny Kovach** is a Marketing Assistant at **HdL Companies**. \*Ceres Interim City Manager **Alex Terrazas** served as the City Manager in Los Banos from June 2016 until March 2021. \*Half Moon Bay City Manager **Bob Nisbet** received a three-year employment agreement extension and salary increase in September. \***Carolyn Lehr** (1952-2021), former City Manager in Emeryville (2015-2018); Rancho Palos Verdes (2007-2014); Keego Harbor, Michigan (2003-2006); and Monte Sereno (1993-1996) passed away on March 9, 2021. \*Rocklin and Mission Viejo made Money magazine's list of the 50 best places to live for 2021-2022.

## Vernon G. Hazen

(May 3, 1936 -September 4, 2021)  
85 years of age of Ramona, California

Vern began his storied public management career in 1961 as an Administrative Analyst in the County of Contra Costa. In January 1963 Vern joined the Mountain View city staff as an Administrative Assistan, and he was promoted the Assistant to the City Manager in February 1968. In August 1970, Vern started his tenure as the Mountain View Assistant City Manager. Vern became the City Manager in Mill Valley in July 1975. He moved to Escondido in August 1982 as City Manager, and worked in that position until January 1989. After working a planning position for about a year in Chula Vista and San Diego, Vern was appointed City Manager in Oxnard starting in August 1990. In 1994, Vern worked as a Principal in Hazen Associates. He became the City Manager in Cathedral City in August 1994 and worked in that position until 1996. He served as an ICMA Senior Advisor from 1997 to 2013. Vern earned a BS from San Jose State University.



Santa Fe Springs City Manager **Raymond R. Cruz** and **Anthony Gonsalves** of the **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son** professional representation firm of Sacramento at the Gonsalves' Indian Wells home for a special dinner for participants of the 2021 Annual California Contract Cities Association Seminar. Ray and his family were La Mirada neighbors of the Gonsalves family when Joe served in the Legislature. Ray says that his father campaigned for Joe in the 1960s and early 1970s. Now Ray, as City Manager, works with Anthony and his sons Jason and Paul of the **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son** firm, which represents the City of Santa Fe Springs among its many other client cities.

"Lobbyists are like parachutes; you don't need them often but when you do, they had better work."

—**Joe A. Gonsalves**