

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 3/7/05  
**Department Name:** Auditor-Controller  
**Department No.:** 061  
**Agenda Date:** 3/15/05  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:** 5 minutes  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Bob Geis  
Auditor-Controller

**STAFF CONTACT:** Kim Tesoro  
x2108

**SUBJECT:** Commendation resolution

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## **Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors: Adopt a resolution of Commendation for John Torell, Assistant Auditor-Controller for 14 years of dedication and service to the County of Santa Barbara.

## **Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

## **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

## **Mandates and Service Levels:**

## **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

**Special Instructions:** Supervisor Carbajal to sponsor this resolution. Mr. Torell will be present at the Board meeting to receive the resolution.

## **Concurrence:**

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION  
FOR JOHN TORELL  
FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE  
AS THE ASSISTANT AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

WHEREAS, John Torell began his career with Santa Barbara County in 1990 as the Chief of Internal Audit and was promoted to Assistant Auditor-Controller in 1992, and;

WHEREAS, John has assisted the Auditor-Controller in the development of a meaningful Mission Statement as well as the formulation of a set of goals and objectives that have transformed the Auditor's office into an efficient and effective department, and;

WHEREAS, John directed the county-wide Financial System feasibility study, which ultimately led to the development of the County's Financial Information Network (FIN), and;

WHEREAS, John is known to be a skilled, effective negotiator whose assistance is sought after by many departments. He was instrumental in negotiating agreements with cable television franchisees, refuse haulers and Santa Barbara Veterans among others, and;

WHEREAS, John conceived, organized and served as the founding Director of Project Clean Water, a community collaborative effort of environmental, business and farming interests. John led a public awareness campaign that effectively convinced the public that clean water was a serious issue and resulted in the passage by the voters of a special hotel tax to fund clean water initiatives, and;

WHEREAS, John has choreographed the Mission County Formation Review Commission's review process by serving as the executive secretary to the Commission, and has authored the Commission's Report to the people, and;

WHEREAS, John can be relied on to attend any meeting that was serving free food, and his New Yorker attitude allows him to articulate what everyone else is thinking but is afraid to say, and;

WHEREAS, John brings a great sense of humor to the workplace that permits staff to frequently give him the disrespect that he deserves. He will be greatly missed and we wish John the very best in his new job as the Auditor-Comptroller of the City of San Diego.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors does hereby honor and commend John Torell for dedicated service to the employees and citizens of this County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the Santa Barbara County, State of California, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2005, by unanimous vote of all members present.