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**From: The Desk of Christie Stanley, Santa Barbara County District Attorney**  
**To: Janet Wolf, Second District Supervisor, Santa Barbara County**  
**Re: District Attorney Election - 2010**

Janet, I'm writing to tell you why I chose Josh Lynn to lead the office while I recover from hip surgery and my reasoning in supporting his candidacy for the non-partisan office of District Attorney in 2010.

I've known Josh as a career prosecutor for 14 years and I've known his opponent for even longer. I've worked with both of them, managed both of them and had an excellent vantage point to judge not only their careers but to also assess their personal character as I've come to know them well.

Josh's character, ethics and respect for both the rule and operation of the law are beyond reproach. As the Chief Trial Deputy and winner of the Thomas Guerrey Award he has demonstrated the ability to lead in the court room and to be an effective, respected and well liked administrator. He takes very seriously the leadership role of the office, treats people with respect and is fair.

Simply stated, Josh's opponent, Joyce Dudley, has consistently displayed a zealous "win at any cost" approach that has lead to multiple judicial misconduct problems which have negatively affected victims, defendants and taxpayers. Her approach to this upcoming election was cut of the same cloth. While I recovered from life-threatening cancer, Joyce went about undermining the mission of my office at a time when her support for its goals was needed most. Her problems with playing fair are repeated, well-known and documented. This is not talking badly of a political opponent, in fact it is not me talking at all it is reality.

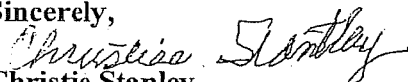
Joyce's professional misconduct issues will be the subject of much public local debate no doubt and are documented in the words of judges not attorneys or political players on either side. Despite her efforts to keep them secret, (and Josh's reluctance to use them for political gain and risk the reputation of the office to which he has dedicated his professional career), Joyce will have to answer to these serious historical acts. The late Judge McMahon, in whose courtroom the most notorious of these episodes occurred noted Joyce's inability to play by the rules and own up to her approach. In reversing a verdict by a jury in a very serious sexual abuse case, Judge McMahon penned a written opinion over 100 pages in length to publicly note his dismay at her professional conduct. (See *People v. Inda*). As an attorney, you know this is almost unheard of at the criminal trial court level. Needless to say that defendant went free and the victim, the community and the taxpayers suffered.

In an environment of political gamesmanship and public pressure, it is important to keep public safety and selfless leadership as the paramount goals of the elected District Attorney of this great county. Joyce has never managed this office nor ever even applied to do so.

The District Attorney is so very important a position in this county because it sets the ethical tone for all law enforcement here. I know this because I have dedicated over 30 years to the people of this office and its purpose. The past leaders of the Santa Barbara District Attorney's office have worked very hard to establish and maintain an ethical, stable and team-orientated environment; the best manner in which to fight for justice on behalf of victims and the people. Tom Sneddon, Patrick McKinley and Gene Martinez are among those people who know what it takes to lead this office and have done so for the last 25 years; all of them support Josh Lynn because they know he will continue that dedicated, ethical approach to leadership. His record demonstrates strength and honesty in the courtroom and his administrative experience and success ensures public safety will be his first priority as District Attorney.

Deciding not to run for re-election was very difficult for me. All I am asking is that, no matter the situation, the voting public, whose nearly 70% vote elected me, have the opportunity to judge for themselves and vote for the next District Attorney rather than watch helplessly as the Board of Supervisors attempt to take that right from them by appointing someone to this office only a short time before the election.

Sincerely,

  
Christie Stanley,

District Attorney  
Santa Barbara County