



**PRICE, POSTEL & PARMA LLP**

*Counsellors at Law*

200 East Carrillo Street, Suite 400  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2190

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 99  
Santa Barbara, CA 93102-0099

[www.ppplaw.com](http://www.ppplaw.com)

Ph (805) 962-0011 Fax (805) 965-3978

E-mail: [cg@ppplaw.com](mailto:cg@ppplaw.com)

Timothy E. Metzinger  
Shereef Moharram  
Craig A. Parton  
Kenneth J. Pontifex  
Douglas D. Rossi  
Peter D. Slaughter  
David W. Van Horne  
C.E. Chip Wullbrandt  
Ryan D. Zick  
Sam Zodeh

**CAMERON PARK OFFICE**

3330 Cameron Park Drive, Suite 100  
Cameron Park, CA 95682-7652  
Ph (805) 962-0011  
Fax (805) 965-3978

Todd A. Amspoker  
Susan M. Basham  
Kristen M. R. Blabey  
Shannon D. Boyd  
Timothy M. Cary  
Melissa J. Fassett  
Ian M. Fisher  
Arthur R. Gaudi  
Cameron Goodman  
Christopher E. Haskell  
James H. Hurley, Jr.  
Eric P. Hvolbøll  
Drew Maley  
Mark S. Manion  
Steven K. McGuire

Our File Number:  
12611-22

November 4, 2018

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Barbara  
105 E. Anapamu St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Attn: Michael Allen  
Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board

Re: Montecito Fire Protection District Proposed Ordinance No. 2018-01 –  
Amendment of Ordinance No. 2016-01

Dear Mr. Allen:

Enclosed herewith are 8 copies of Montecito Fire Protection District's Ordinance No. 2018-01 dated October 29, 2018 (the "Ordinance"). The Ordinance is being sent to the Board of Supervisors pursuant to the provisions of Health and Safety Code section 13869.7, a copy of which is enclosed herewith for your information and convenience.

Section 13869.7 provides that the Fire District "may adopt building standards relating to fire and panic safety that are more stringent than those building standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal and contained in the California Building Standards Code." In 2016 the District elected to adopt more stringent standards pursuant to Ordinance No. 2016-01. In response to concerns from the County regarding the thresholds for triggering fire sprinkler installation in existing residential dwellings, the District adopted Ordinance No. 2018-01 to amend certain provisions of Ordinance No. 2016-01.

**Mr. Michael Allen**

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Sections 13869.7 (a) and 17958.7 provide that before the District may adopt such an ordinance, the District “shall make an express finding that the Ordinance is reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological or topographical conditions. The findings shall be available as a public record.” The District’s “express findings” are set forth in Section 2 of the Ordinance.

Section 13869.7 (b) also provides that the District “shall, not less than 30 days prior to noticing a proposed ordinance for public hearing, provide a copy of that ordinance, together with the adopted findings . . . to the . . . county where the ordinance will apply. The . . . county . . . may provide the district with written comments which shall become a part of the fire protection district’s public hearing record.” Copies of a draft of the Ordinance were previously provided to the County Building Official, the County Fire Marshall, and to First District Supervisor Das Williams on or about August 13, 2018. After receiving comments and feedback from Massoud Abolhoda on the draft Ordinance, the District made additional updates and re-sent the current draft of the Ordinance to the County on or about September 7, 2018. The District received no written comments from the County regarding the content of the current draft of the Ordinance.

Finally, Section 13869.7 (c) provides that the District “shall transmit the adopted ordinance to the . . . county where the ordinance will apply. The legislative body of the . . . county, may ratify, modify, or deny an adopted ordinance and transmit its determination to the district within 15 days of the determination.” Upon ratification by the County, the Ordinance will become effective as of the date of ratification.

The District and this office are both looking forward to working with the County on this matter in order that the amendments to Ordinance No. 2016-01 as set forth in Ordinance No. 2018-01 shall become effective in the interest of public safety and health in the District area at the earliest possible date. Should you have any questions concerning any of the enclosures and the procedures to be followed, please feel free to contact the undersigned or Chief Chip Hickman at the District. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Cameron Goodman  
for PRICE, POSTEL & PARMA LLP

CG/lc  
Enclosures

cc: Montecito Fire Protection District  
Jerry Czlueger, Deputy County Counsel