

COUNCIL MEETING
July 21, 2009

Honorable Mayor and Members of the
Torrance City Council
City Hall
Torrance, CA

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Appointment of Deputy City Attorney I

RECOMMENDATION: Recommendation of the City Attorney that the City Council appoint Gillian Studwell to the position of Deputy City Attorney I.

Funding

Funding exists within the current departmental budget.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The City Charter provides that the City Council, on the recommendation of the City Attorney, may appoint Assistant and Deputy City Attorneys in order to carry out the duties of the Office of the City Attorney.

A vacancy currently exists in the City Attorney's office due to the recent resignation of Heather Whitham.

With the resignation of Ms. Whitham, the City Attorney is recommending the appointment of Gillian Studwell to the position of Deputy City Attorney 1, underfilling the vacant Deputy City Attorney III position. Ms. Studwell was hired in a limited tenure, non-classified position of Legal Counselor on January 22, 2008. She is currently working in the Criminal Division handling misdemeanor prosecutions. Her performance of her duties has been exemplary. She regularly conducts loss prevention workshops for Torrance merchants, is a highly motivated self-starter and has excellent work habits.

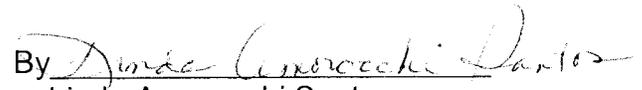
Gillian received a B.A. in Political Science from University of California, Santa Barbara and her J.D. from Loyola Law School. Prior to her employment with the

City, she worked as an intern with our office. Funding for this position is available in the department's budget.

The City Attorney is recommending the appointment of Gillian Studwell to the position of Deputy City Attorney 1.

Respectfully submitted,

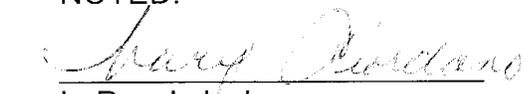
John L. Fellows III, City Attorney

By 
Linda Amorocchi Santos
Law Office Administrator

CONCUR:


John L. Fellows III, City Attorney

NOTED:


LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager