ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

OPEN SHOP GAZETTE

VOLUME IX, 2007

As reported in Volume VII, 2006 ***Open Shop Gazette***, the Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector, John Moorlach was running for Orange County Supervisor and the public safety unions were doing everything to defeat him. As we later reported, Mr. Moorlach won his election, they lost.

On Thursday, December 7, 2006, just one day into his new position of Orange County Supervisor, Mr. Moorlach called for a full audit of the multimillion-dollar health-insurance fund administered by law-enforcement union officials with public tax dollars and he wants the same trims on retiree medical benefits imposed on general employees this year. "Nobody's untouchable" Moorlach said Wednesday, December 6, 2006. The county has an unfunded pension liability that is estimated at more than $2 billion and a large part of that amount stems from the law-enforcement pension benefit. Union leaders have sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors Chairman asking that Moorlach be removed from negotiations involving them. The letter came after Mr. Moorlach refused to shake hands with union officials at a restaurant and in the past has called union leaders "thugs".

An article in the *Orange County Register* of Friday, December 15, 2006, states that "Bob MacLeod, the General Manager for the deputies union, stopped short of saying the word strike but confirmed that nearly 300 sheriff's deputies gathered with their union leaders Wednesday (December 13, 2006) night and voted to authorize job actions "up to and including withholding of services." County Supervisors say that union leaders are simply avoiding public accountability and continue to push for a full audit.

The *Orange County Register* published a letter from Mr. Robert J. MacLeod, General Manager of the Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs, in the editorial section of the December 31, 2006 edition. Mr. MacLeod was very upset, he used the word "Balderdash" twice and said that the County "ignores every standard of negotiations, commits unfair labor practices, refuses to negotiate in good faith, engages in regressive bargaining and repeatedly violates the Government Code." And yes, he is still upset about being called a "thug" and not getting to shake hands with Mr. Moorlach.

On Tuesday, January 9, 2007, members of the deputy sheriffs union delivered 870 signed letters to the county officials asking that Supervisor John Moorlach be barred from attending any law enforcement functions.

I am sure that this is not the end of this story, just another installment. I promise to keep you posted on all the future action.

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