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County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

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JANET K. BEAUTZ
FIRST DISTRICT

ELLEN PIRIE
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

MARK W. STONE
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 2/24/04

February 9, 2004

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Dear Members of the Board:

Attached is the Annual Report of the Latino Affairs Commission. I recommend that the Board accept and file this report and direct the Chair to thank the members of the Commission for their efforts on behalf of the County.

Sincerely,

MARDI WORMHOUDT, Chair
Board of Supervisors

MW: ted

cc: Latino Affairs Commission

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County of Santa Cruz

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LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION

(831) 454-4058
FAX (831) 454-4642
1000 Emeline Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

January 30, 2004

Mardi Wormhoudt, Chairperson
Santa Cruz County
Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Supervisor Wormhoudt:

Attached for your information is the Latino Affairs Commission Annual Report of 2003.

Sincerely,

CARMEN PEREZ
Chairperson

Annual Report 2003

cc: Clerk of the Board



County of Santa Cruz

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LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION
(831) 454-4058
FAX (831) 454-4642
1000 Emeline Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT

2003

**LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION
2003 ANNUAL REPORT**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Latino Affairs Commission was established April 7, 1992 and created an important and historical opportunity to advocate the needs of the Latino community. Latinos continue to constitute the largest ethnic minority group in Santa Cruz County.

11. OVERVIEW

The Latino Affairs Commission (LAC) was established by ordinance no. 4186 and added to the Santa Cruz County Code Chapter 2.117 on May 11, 1992. The Commission consists of nine members, five of whom are appointed from each supervisorial district, and four who are nominated by the cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville (two each).

The current commission is represented by two private industry employees, three non-profit employees, a union field representative, a small businessperson, and a probation officer. All are Latinos.

111. ROLE OF COMMISSION

The commission exercises the following responsibilities in its efforts to ensure that the interests of the County's Latino population are protected and promoted:

- A. Respond to the interests of the Latino community, including public and private agencies, on concerns and issues affecting the needs of the Latino residents in the County of Santa Cruz.
- B. Collect critical data and information from both public and private agencies relating to the needs of the growing Latino community.
- C. Advise and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on relevant issues and matters concerning the Latino community.
- D. Monitor the various services made available to Latino residents by public and private agencies within the county and help ensure the efficient delivery of those services.
- E. Advise and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding socioeconomic needs of low income Latinos, including the county allocation of resources to county programs and community program funding.

IV. MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS

The first meeting of the Latino Affairs Commission for 2003 was held on February 5, 2003. During reporting year 2003, regular meetings were held bi-monthly on the first Wednesday of each month, with the exception when a quorum could not be established. Meetings convened at 6:00 p.m. The location of each meeting alternated between Watsonville, Capitola, and Santa Cruz. Meetings are not held during the months of July and December unless the Commission has a need to conduct official business.

V. COMMISSION STRUCTURE

The Latino Affairs Commission consists of nine (9) members appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Five (5) members are appointed by Supervisorial District. Supervisorial appointments include: **First District: Skyler Porras; Second District: Ray Pereyra; Third District: Tony Madrigal; Fourth District: Jesus Fernandez; Fifth District: Yolanda Perez-Logan.** An additional four (4) members are nominated by the cities of Watsonville and Santa Cruz. Members appointed are: **the City of Watsonville: Daniel Dodge and one position is vacant; the City of Santa Cruz: Carmen Perez, and Ivonne Muioz.**

VI. COMMISSION STAFF

Cecilia Espinola, the Human Resources Agency Administrator, and Teresita Hinojosa-Pereira, Sr. Human Services Analyst staffed the commission. The commission continues to seek your support in obtaining a permanent part-time staff member.

VII. ATTENDANCE

A roster is attached.

VIII. GOALS ACCOMPLISHED IN 2003

- A. Conduct a retreat during calendar year 2003.
 1. The commission held its annual retreat on May 31, 2003. New Commissioners are welcomed and receive an orientation to LAC policies and procedures. Additionally, annual goals and objectives are formulated through December 31, 2003.
- B. Review and focus on implementation of the Latino Strategic Plan (LSP).
 1. Commissioners have continued to actively participate in the LSP implementation process, and have established subcommittees that focus on the LSP subject areas and recommendations.

- C. Continue to collaborate and meet with other local, state, federal and private agencies.
1. Commissioner Perez-Logan has represented the LAC in the Cultural Competency Advisory Committee that has met throughout the year with the Human Services Commission, other designated commission representatives and the Latino Executive Directors to establish the Cultural Competency Standards, definitions, guidelines, planning template, and expectations for Community Programs through fiscal year 2007-08. Community Programs will be held accountable in implementing the standards. Future and ongoing funding recommendations will be based on the ability to facilitate the implementation.
 2. Several representatives of the community were invited to commission meetings which included: California Rural Legal Assistance, The Progressive Housing Advocates, County of Santa Cruz Planning Department, Grupo Amistad Vicion, Court Appointed Special Advocates, and the Youth Community Restoration Project a project of the Community Action Board.
 3. Commissioners attended and participated in various projects and meetings throughout the community in Santa Cruz County which included:
 - Researching the proposed County of Santa Cruz General Plan Draft Housing Element, and met with a representative of California Rural Legal Assistance, who is also a member of The Progressive Housing Advocates. In addition, all Commissioners participated in a public presentation meeting with the County Planning Department, as well as a public presentation by the Progressive Housing Advocates.
 - Commissioner Carmen Perez, City of Santa Cruz representative and Raymundo Pereyra, Second District representative, are participating in the Leadership Santa Cruz County program.
 - Helped to organize over 380 farm workers and their families to participate in the first Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action (COPA) in Salinas on June 8, 2003. This first step in organizing a regional organization to help empower the local communities of Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito counties included over 1500 participants including religious, nonprofits, and community organizations, and local politicians and government representatives at all levels.
 - Three Commissioners have been recognized as “Community Heroes” for the last three years as part of the Community Assessment Project sponsored by the United Way of Santa Cruz County.

4. Commissioner Yolanda Perez-Logan was recognized by the Community Assessment Project of the United Way of Santa Cruz County as a 2003 Community Hero for Public Safety: Crime within Santa Cruz County will decrease and residents will have increased confidence in their personal safety at home and in the community.
 5. Commissioner Carmen Perez was recognized for her mentorship of the Community Heroes “dedicated to improving life in the community by working towards community goals in areas that affect quality of life”. Commissioner Perez mentored five young people in the Reforming Education Advocating Leadership (REAL) group that was awarded the honor.
- D. To develop broader community participation on the following subcommittees:
1. The commission intends to continue its subcommittee structure and its goals and objectives for 2003. The subcommittees will include: HRA & County Budget oversight, partnerships including the Latino Strategic Planning Collaborative, and County General Plan development.
- E. Recommended continued participation on the adoption and implementation of Cultural Competence in Community Programs as well across all County departments.
- F. Continue to pursue acquisition of County resources for a part-time Commission coordinator/staff person.
1. The commission continues to support and advocates for the creation of a part-time (20 hours per week) staff position for the LAC. This staffing position should be created in order to: ensure that issues affecting the Latino community are addressed on a priority basis; research and analysis are prepared; legislative and public policy issues affecting Latinos are reviewed; and act as a central contact point for community issues and efforts.

IX. GOALS FOR 2004

The Latino Affairs Commission establishes the following goals for 2004:

- A. A primary goal of the Commission is to have a fully appointed Commission in place in order to be able to accomplish its goals, but most importantly, to be able to have enough members to establish a quorum for its bi-monthly meetings. To actively recruit and advocate for the appointment of Latinos to the vacant city and county positions on the commission.

- B. Accomplish the proposed goals set forth during the upcoming 2004 retreat.
- C. Continue the work of its Subcommittees established at its annual retreat.
- D. Continue to collaborate and meet with other local, state, federal and private agencies.
- E. Work in cooperation with HRA, and the Cultural Competency Advisory Committee to ensure that Cultural Competence Standards are implemented in Community Program contracts, and in all county departments.
- F. Acquire funding for a part-time (20 hour per week) Commission coordinator/staff person.
- G. Attend other community meetings that give visibility to the Commission and its mission.
- H. Continue to support community organizations through the sponsorship of events, and other activities that inform and empower the Latino community.

lac\Annual Report 2003

LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION
ATTENDANCE
2003

	1/03	2/03	3/03	4/03	5/03	6/03	7/03	8/03	9/03	10/03	11/03	12/03
S. Ted Lopez			X									
Alex Reveles			X									
Angelica Diaz			X									
Daniel Dodge			X									
Yolanda Perez-Logan			X									
Tony Madrigal			A									
Jesus Fernandez												
Ray Pereyra			X									
Skyler Porras			X									
Carmen Perez			X									
Ivonne Muñoz												

- Not a member of the Commission at this time A - Excused Absence U - Unexcused Absence