

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Tavaglione

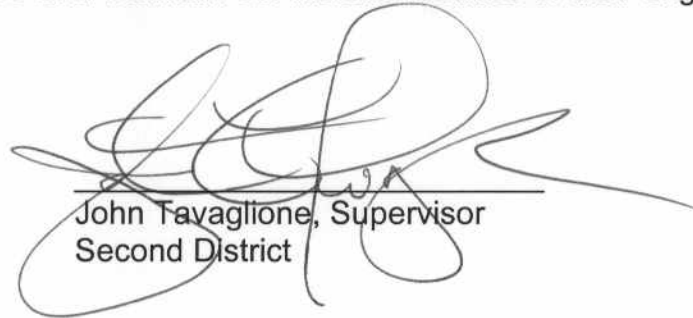
SUBMITTAL DATE: October 19, 2004

SUBJECT: POSITION OF THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN REGARD TO THE QUOTE BY THEODORE ROOSEVELT IN DEPARTMENT 8 OF THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Riverside County Board of Supervisors take a firm position to leave in place, the historic language in Department 8 of the Riverside County Historic Courthouse, quoting the words of Theodore Roosevelt, "a true Christian is a true citizen," and send instructions to the Courts that this language shall remain in place and in its original form.

BACKGROUND: The recent controversy sparked by a complaint from the Anti-Defamation League, resulted in the County, in cooperation with the Courts to consider covering a historic quote engraved in mahogany in Department 8 of the Old Historic Courthouse. After discussion between the offices of County Counsel and the Presiding Court Judge, a plan was put into place to temporarily cover the quote during court proceedings in this courtroom. Thankfully, this direction has been put on hold as a result of a court challenge under the First Amendment rights of the United States Constitution.

Quotes of a faith-based nature are seen in historic facilities throughout the United States and freedom of speech is one of the principles this nation was founded on. I believe that it is important for this County to preserve and maintain our historic facilities in their original and truest form.



John Tavaglione, Supervisor
Second District

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