



# DIGEST

## Supervisor Edelman Outlines Goals For 1985

Supervisor Ed Edelman succeeded Supervisor Dana as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors on December 3, 1984. After assuming the Chairmanship he made the following remarks.

As I assume the chairmanship of the Board of Supervisors, I look forward to working with the other members of the Board in making Los Angeles County a healthier, safer and more prosperous place in which to live. More than seven million people rely on the work of the Board of Supervisors, but it takes all of us working together to improve our community.

I would like to talk about some of the challenges I hope we can face together in 1985.

In the past year, we have seen wanton killings and gang warfare, much of which is over who is going to control drug traffic in certain neighborhoods. The underlying problem is the use of drugs in our society. As Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I intend to work with the Sheriff's Department and other law enforcement officials to set up a massive education campaign to prevent drug abuse before it occurs.

We are doing a good job arresting and convicting drug traffickers, but unless we can stop the use of drugs in our schools and communities, our victory is illusory. We can try to dry up the sources, but we will not succeed until



Supervisor Edmund D. Edelman

we dry up the market.

On December 1, we officially opened the doors of the Los Angeles County Department of Children's Services. We can look back on a year in which we have created a role model for the nation in the battle against the growing number of reported cases of child abuse and neglect. With the development of the new department, we have taken the first step in combating one of the worst crimes directed at those least equipped to protect and defend themselves. Protect and defend

Of course, now the real battle begins. The problems of overcrowding at the MacLaren Children's Center, unmanageable caseloads for social workers and poor coordination among the County, the courts and the community groups that want to help will not just go away unless we give the Children's Services Department all our support services. The problems at MacLaren are partly due to the lack of foster care in Los Angeles County. We have to recruit more families, but more importantly, we have to train them and support them as they face the difficult problem of handling

ding hard-to-handle kids.

The struggles of the homeless must not get lost in the shuffle of government red tape. One way or another, we must treat these unfortunate people. We can treat them now in a humane way, or we can treat them later when they are so sick they have to go to a County hospital, or so desperate that they commit a crime and wind up in County jail.

We must increase the availability of shelter for the homeless, not just in the Skid Row hotels on which we now depend, but in clean, dormitory-style living conditions. Counseling services must be available in these facilities to help people break the cycle of tragedy that has forced them to live on the street. Facilities such as I describe exist, but there just are not enough of them, and we need to work together with the private sector to develop more.

We must make a renewed effort to convince the Governor and the Legislature to support a series of reforms to ease the problems caused by court congestion in both the civil and criminal courts. We do not want to interfere with a defendant's right to a fair trial, we just want to streamline procedures. But we face an uphill fight in Sacramento, and I think we must impress upon the Governor the necessity that he take a lead role in this fight.

I will continue to seek authority for the Board of Supervisors to have an independent source of revenue, such as the five-cents-per-drink 'tippler tax'. By giving the Board such an option, the Legislature would guarantee that the fiscal stability so beneficial to Los Angeles County residents would weather economic turmoil.

Although the number of gang-related crimes is down from previous years, we

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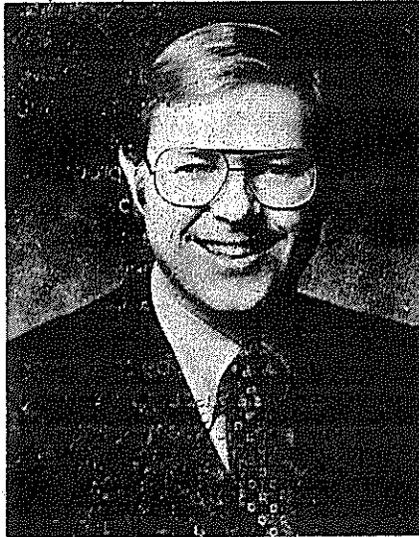
# Supervisor Antonovich Sworn in For Second Term

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich began his second term on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors with a pledge to "continue to make county government more efficient and economical by providing the best possible service to my constituents."

Sharing credit with his colleagues on the board, Supervisor Antonovich said the joint efforts have resulted in the "cutting of wasteful expenditures and consolidation of departments, the granting of more freedom and responsibility to the private sector, and cooperation with the private sector to attain mutually beneficial goals."

The net results of these efforts, he said, include a reduction of "approximately 6,000 positions in the County work force since December of 1980," when he took office.

"It is gratifying to note that almost all of these reductions were achieved through attrition rather than through actual layoffs of County employees. We shall continue to streamline the County work force by eliminating unnecessary



Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

positions through our consolidation and contracting out programs," he said.

As he reviewed the progress made during the first term, Supervisor Antonovich also gave credit to the recommendations developed in an

Antonovich-sponsored study of government operations by the University of California, Los Angeles, Graduate School of Management. Board implementation of that study, calling for the reduction of County departments from 54 to about 20 during the next four years, already has resulted in the elimination of six departments through a series of recent consolidations.

Supervisor Antonovich also pointed to the County's accelerated use of contracting County work to the private sector, noting that the growing trend already has resulted in saving 50 million taxpayer dollars and increased private sector employment.

Supervisor Antonovich pledged to "stay the course of innovation and progress during the next four years," and promised to continue working toward increased support for the maintenance of "our top priorities, including efforts to treat and prevent child abuse problems and uphold a strong position for law enforcement, fire protection and public health."

# Supervisor Hahn Enters Ninth Term

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has begun his ninth four-year term as a Los Angeles County Supervisor.

One of my proudest achievements was the passage of Proposition A in 1980, Supervisor Hahn said. "But it is vital that we earn the trust of the people by making sure that their money is spent wisely and well in developing rapid transit in Los Angeles County, while still ensuring efficient and affordable bus transportation."

One of my top priorities will be to make sure that the Long Beach to downtown Los Angeles light rail line, the Metro rail-subway and the Century Freeway, with its rail line down the median, are all constructed as speedily and economically as possible, avoiding the bureaucratic roadblocks that so often derail projects like these.

We also plan to push for an all-out assault on the dual problems of gangs and drugs in our community. We need a united attack of city, county, state and



Supervisor Kenneth Hahn

federal governments to get the perpetrators of gang violence off our streets and eliminate narcotics from our borders. We simply cannot allow these influences to grow, leaving so many destroyed lives in their wake.

"But it is not enough to just crack

down on the criminals. We must provide young people with positive alternatives through education and employment. There is one four-letter word that could solve much of this problem ... j-o-b-s. If we could provide better training in our schools and then make sure that jobs would be waiting upon graduation, much of the temptation of lawlessness would be eliminated.

"One of the battles I will continue to wage until there is a victory for our citizens is the fight against automobile insurance redlining. It is simply wrong for inner-city motorists with good driving records to pay two to three times more for insurance than drivers in outlying areas, simply because of where they park their cars at night. The giant insurance companies are waging a divide-and-conquer strategy against all California drivers, but ultimately public outcry will force the Legislature to step in and require a single automobile

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# Supervisor Dana Sworn In For Next Four Years      New District Attorney Sworn In

Supervisor Deane Dana made the following remarks immediately following his being sworn in to his second term as a County Supervisor.

The last four years have been a dramatic period for the County and the Board of Supervisors.

So much has been accomplished that there is a temptation to dwell upon the past. After all, we have put in place a reorganization program that will allow services to be delivered more effectively and efficiently . . . and we have given departmental managers the tools needed to better do their jobs.

The County family played important roles in making the 1984 Summer Olympic Games the major success it was. A very major part was the work of County people and the Host Committee in giving key business leaders from America and the world a new perspective on Los Angeles County.

We will be working to build upon that new perspective in the coming year . . . and will be joined by the Economic Development Corporation as we seek to create new jobs for Los Angeles County residents.

We have also created a working partnership with the private sector through the contracting out program . . . a partnership that helps the County in its primary role — providing services to the public.

In short, we have solved many problems of the moment while preparing the way to meet the problems that lie ahead.

It is to these problems that I and other members of the Board and each of our departments must now direct our attention.

Time has clearly shown that government money alone has not, and cannot, solve problems. It will take innovative and interested department managers and motivated employees to provide tangible solutions to such problems as:

- Toxic waste disposal, which is a crisis at hand, one that cannot have less than top priority. But we must also find depositories for the

thousands of tons of non-toxic waste that cannot be disposed of through recycling or be burned to create energy.

- Government must also prove Howard Jarvis wrong by assuring that taxes are not increased to fund expanded pension programs. If we fail, County government, indeed all local government, will be confronted by a new initiative effort that will emasculate all services.

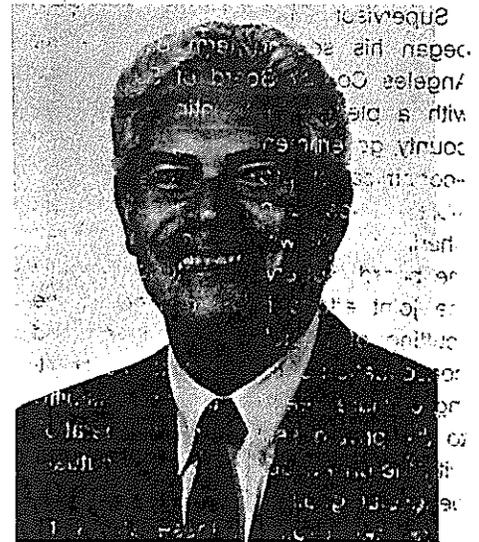
- We must work cooperatively with our cities to assure that Community Redevelopment Agency projects do not undermine the County's financial structure. Last revenues over a 40-year period could well run into hundreds of millions of dollars we cannot spare. We must work together to assure an equal division of revenues, as we have the past two years.

- We must continue to refine our management process to assure maximum productivity in a rapidly changing world.

- Transportation needs are yet another important problem that has to be successfully resolved. I intend to fight for light rail service. If Metro Rail is as dead as everyone keeps saying, we can still do a great deal to relieve congestion in our beach areas with a light rail system that includes the Century Freeway Corridor.

Other than toxic waste, there is no greater need than developing a permanent county funding source. While some gains in that direction have been made with the state, we must still fight to retain last year's gains and to establish them in constitutional amendments so they cannot be changed at the whim of a future governor or legislature.

The agenda for the next four years is a full one. I look forward to meeting the challenges . . . and with the help of everyone we can not only meet them head-on, we can solve them.



District Attorney Ira Reiner

On December 3, 1984, Ira Reiner was sworn in as District Attorney for Los Angeles County.

As Los Angeles City Attorney, Reiner headed one of the largest municipal law offices in the country. Elected to the 240-lawyer office in 1981, he directed the prosecution of more than 120,000 criminal cases each year, advised the City of Los Angeles on all legal matters and represented the City in court.

As the City Controller from 1977-1981, Reiner established a reputation as a person who closely scrutinized City business expenses by elected officials and others to ensure that public funds were properly spent.

Reiner has also been active in other community affairs as an elected member of the Los Angeles Community College Board of Trustees from 1975-1977 and as a Vice President of the City Fire Commission from 1973-1975.

A Deputy City Attorney from 1964-1967, Reiner later spent ten years as a lawyer in private practice before returning to public service as the City Controller.

Reiner graduated from Southwestern University School of Law in 1964 and earned his B.S. degree in finance from the University of Southern California in 1959. Married to Superior Court Judge Diane Wayne, they have two children, Ann, age 8, and Tom 6.

## Supervisor Dana Reviews His 1984 Board Chairmanship



Supervisor Deane Dana

**Supervisor Deane Dana made the following remarks after having served as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors during 1984.**

One year ago, in launching my term as Board of Supervisors Chairman, I noted that it was a time of change, and for change.

Today, it can be accurately said that this Board has met the challenges inherent with change.

We have taken the important first steps toward reorganizing our departmental structure to create a County government that is well managed and

aligned to meet the needs symbolized by the approach of a new century.

This reorganization provides the blueprint through which our managers and our employees can provide the innovations needed to meet the productivity required if we are to fill County government's prime role . . . service to the public.

We as a Board have confronted many difficult issues in the past twelve months, and made important strides toward resolving them.

In creating the new Children's Services Department we have the means to better assure protection for our children from all forms of abuse.

Through our concerted efforts with the governor and state legislators, the Board has made first strides toward establishing a permanent county funding source. This is a battle just begun, not won.

We must work to assure that funding sources are locked into the State Constitution so that they cannot be overturned by future governors or legislators and safeguarded for the public.

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## Supervisor Hahn's 9th Term

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insurance rate structure for all Californians."

Among Supervisor Hahn's other goals are elimination of duplication and waste among the local governments and special districts within Los Angeles County, which cost taxpayers over \$100 million a year, establishment of paramedic programs in all 84 cities in the county, extension of freeway callboxes statewide (they are now only on Los Angeles County freeways), providing decent and healthy housing for the growing homeless population, and protecting children from abuse.

"I have always said that I am the luckiest man in the world," Supervisor Hahn added, "I'm paid to do what I love to do and feel honored to have been returned to office by the people I represent."

## Supervisor Edelman's Goals for 1985

*(Continued from page 1)*

refuse to let gang violence dominate our streets, schools and the lives of innocent people. Programs like the Community Youth Gang Services and the Probation Department's Specialized Gang Supervision Program need continued support and new solutions must be found to encourage witnesses to identify and testify against murderous gang members.

We must encourage witnesses to come forward by protecting them, helping them testify and guaranteeing their safety. We must make sure the trials of accused gang killers are not drawn out so that justice will be swift and sure.

One of the major public health issues that faces us today is toxic waste. It is imperative that we have the resources and sites for safe disposal of hazardous waste to discourage the temptation to just dump these toxic wastes in the ground, where they threaten all of us.

To achieve these goals will take a bipartisan effort. It will also take the involvement of the state. I am counting on my colleagues to help me as we move ahead and face our duty to serve the public in the coming year.

Los Angeles County is a unity of many diverse and proud communities. Through the efforts of the County and its employees and the help and support of our citizens, this County can be a nation-wide symbol of progress and opportunity.

## Holidays Project For Elderly and Disabled

The 1984 Holidays Project of the Los Angeles County Public Guardian is getting under way. Its purpose is to personally present gifts already on hand to the 2,000 elderly or disabled people in the care of the Public Guardian.

If you'd like to take part in the Holidays Project or learn more about the Public Guardian's volunteers program, call Joan Vitale at (213) 974-0400.

County of Los Angeles

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