

PECK PRESS RELEASE

From Norman H. Kirshman, Attorney for Mary Kay Peck, Henderson City Manager

In response to recent media coverage regarding my client, Mary Kay Peck, Henderson City Manager, I have the following comments.

- 1) City Manager Mary Kay Peck was asked by a representative of the Mayor and Council to take 30 days of paid administrative leave, effective March 17, 2009 with no contact during the leave with any City of Henderson employee.
- 2) An agenda item to discuss an evaluation was placed on the March 17 City Council agenda but later removed. The removal of the item from the agenda was not requested by the City Manager.
- 3) To date, Ms. Peck has completed approximately 14 years of employment with the City. She was promoted to the position of Assistant City Manager, and later to City Manager, a position held for the past 18 months. Consistent with her contract, she requested an evaluation which was due after completion of six months as City Manager. No evaluation took place. To date, there have been no evaluations. Verbal indications given were that evaluations were either not necessary or performance was satisfactory. The City Manager understands as well as anyone the importance of and need for timely assessment and evaluation.
- 4) Ms. Peck is proud of what she has been able to accomplish in her relatively short tenure as City Manager, including:
 - Henderson was named for the second time by Money Magazine as one of America's Best Places to Live.
 - When polled in January, residents of Henderson expressed a 90% satisfaction rate with the City's quality of life.
 - Henderson was the recipient of the Trailblazer Award for organizational excellence from the Nevada Quality Alliance.
 - Henderson was recognized by the National League of Cities for Municipal Excellence.
 - Henderson was highlighted by the International City and County Management Association (ICMA) for exceptional customer service.
 - Henderson was honored with the ICMA Center for Performance Management Certificate of Distinction.
 - Ninety percent Henderson employee satisfaction rate in recent employee poll.
- 5) The City Manager remains ready and willing to complete the term of her contract. She is committed to doing so ***consistent with the terms of her contract as well as consistent with both her rights and responsibilities as established by the Charter of the City of Henderson.***

6) The City Manager would welcome the opportunity at the appropriate time to work with the elected officials of Henderson, constructively discuss performance expectations and ultimately work together successfully to see the City through these challenging economic times.

7) I have been authorized by the City Manager to provide this statement to the media. Further, it is not Ms. Peck's desire to burden the City with the expense of a "not for cause" termination of her contract. In any event, my client remains prepared for any public disclosure that a proper and timely evaluation would bring.

As Ms. Peck's attorney, it is my personal conclusion that political motivations have been substituted for rational thinking notwithstanding the cost to the City.

For the record, in respect to the April 3, 2009 article in the Las Vegas Sun, page 3, regarding Mary Kay Peck, the statement, "... Peck adopted figures that projected a lesser decrease in tax revenue than did more conservative figures favored by other city staffers. As a result, the city faces a greater budget pinch than it would have." is absolutely false.

For the record, the City has made no formal proposal for a resolution of the balance of the City Manager's Contract, nor have their been meaningful negotiations.

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