



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LABORERS

4780 CHABOT DRIVE, SUITE 200, PLEASANTON, CALIFORNIA 94588-3322 • PHONE (925) 469-6800 • FAX (925) 469-6900

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John Zervas at (925) 469-6800 or zervas@liunapsw.org

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LABORERS' OFFICIAL APPOINTED TO SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Pleasanton, CA (January 7, 2011) - Mayor Gavin Newsom nominated Vince Courtney to serve on the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). This appointment was confirmed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on January 4, 2011 by unanimous decision.

“As the SFPUC continues its work to seismically rebuild our water and wastewater systems and deliver renewable power to San Francisco, Vince Courtney’s valuable experience in workforce training, the building and construction trades and labor negotiations will be tremendous assets to our regional public utility,” said Mayor Newsom. “He is widely respected by business, labor and the community alike and I know he will boost the agency’s leading efforts to expand local hiring by City contractors and deliver reliable water, wastewater and renewable power service. I’m proud to nominate him to serve on the SFPUC and grateful for his willingness to serve the utility’s 2.5 million Bay Area customers.”

Vince Courtney serves as the Special Assistant to the Business Manager of the Northern California District Council of Laborers and Business Representative and Political Captain for the Laborers’ International Union of North America, Local 261. In addition, Courtney serves as the Executive Director of the Laborers’ Community and Training Foundation, which provides pre-apprenticeship training and invaluable hands-on experience to San Francisco youth and the unemployed to develop and foster a career in the building trades.

He has served on multi-union councils and on various labor community boards and commissions, including the San Francisco Labor Council, San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council and the California Labor Federation. Courtney holds a Bachelor’s Degree from UC Santa Cruz in Politics and a Juris Doctorate degree from San Francisco Law School.

“Vince Courtney’s appointment to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is an important milestone for the Laborers’ Union. I am grateful to Mayor Newsom for recognizing the Laborers’ contribution and value to the construction industry,” said Oscar De La Torre, Business Manager, Northern California District Council of Laborers. “Vince Courtney will be a strong voice for labor in the Bay Area. This is particularly important as critical projects commence and continue within the SFPUC District, such as the Hetch Hetchy Project. This project alone employs hundreds of hard working men and women from throughout much of the Bay Area (Laborers’ Locals 261, 304, 324 and 389) and Central Valley (Laborers’ Locals 73, 185, 291, 294 and 1130).”

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With over 35,000 Laborer members and 1,700 signatory employers strong, the Northern California District Council of Laborers, is on the forefront of the construction industry, a powerhouse of workers and employers who are proud to build Northern California.