



Committee on Chicano Rights

710 East Third Street • National City, CA 91950 • (619) 477-3800

March 2, 2010

Mayor Ron Morisson and
City Councilpersons

Re: Councilpersons Parra's appointment.

Mayor and City Council:

For the record, we oppose City Manager Chris Zapata's recommendation to hire Councilperson Frank Parra for the newly created \$119,000 a year Emergency Service Director position, to replace National City's outgoing Fire Chief.

It is our position that:

- **The selection process utilized by City Manager Zapata to select Councilperson Parra be rejected, and the national search arbitrarily ended by City Manager Zapata to employ the best-qualified candidate for Fire Chief be re-instituted,**
- **Council hearings and public hearings be held to seek comments, input and approval from the community if the position of Fire Chief is going to be eliminated, and the Fire Department public safety role is going to be changed from fire fighting to "rolling ambulance service" by the City Council.**

The decision by City Manager Chris Zapata who is a hired employee, to recommend to the City Council to appoint his boss, Councilperson Frank Parra,

1. Who is not a fireman and has no fire fighting experience,
2. Who does not have the proper educational credentials,
3. Who had a new department created so he could be hired,
4. Who was the only candidates allowed to apply for the position, and to be interviewed,
5. Whose qualifications are serving on the NC city council, and as a emergency medical employee,

Appears to many in the community to be a political appointment orchestrated by Mayor Ron Morisson “*good old boy network,*” and smacks of a political backroom deal that stinks to high heaven!

While we would be extremely surprised if one city councilperson raised one question or made an inquiry about the propriety of Councilperson Parra’s selection, and even more certain that Councilperson Frank Parra new position will be rubberstamped, it is our position that this correspondence be entered into tonight’s public record.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Herman Baca". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first letters of "Herman" and "Baca" being prominent.

Herman Baca, CCR President