

Cheryl J. Ward Retires From the City Attorney Office After 27 Years



attorneys, implemented innovative procedures to increase effectiveness of prosecution with the LAPD, including more roll call training and greater responsiveness to crime victims through the City Attorney's office during her tenure as chief.

She served as Special Assistant District Attorney under Ira Reiner after he went to work for the county. She had oversight responsibility for several bureaus: child support, child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault. She helped draft, and advocated, legislation that would allow a child victim, traumatized by sexual and physical abuse, to testify via closed-circuit television. She also helped draft legislation to outlaw the possession of child pornography.

After returning to City service, Mayor Jim Hahn appointed her to develop his legislative program, which resulted in the strongest piece of legislation ever passed to address gang criminal activity. Passed in 1988, it was called the Street Enforcement Protection Act Against Antiterrorism.

She represented the City and the department and served on several committees and agencies.

In 1992, she was appointed Assistant Manager of the Civil Liability Division. In addition to handling personnel matters and discrimination complaints, she successfully defended the City in every case she took to trial, where the City as sued for personal injury, dangerous conditions and police misconduct cases, false arrest and police shooting cases. She developed and implemented the Litigation Team Approach to handling litigation for the attorneys in the division.

She developed internship and training programs for paralegals that trained more than 200 paralegals, and many are employed today because of their experience.

In 1995, Cheryl served in the Employee Relations Division of the Civil Branch, handling employment lawsuits and administrative writs of mandamus. She advised various City departments on sexual harassment and discrimination, including racial, religious, gender and same sex discrimination, and presented staff training to assist management in taking steps to monitor the work environment and reduce the risk of lawsuits.

In 1998, she was appointed as Special Counsel and Liaison to then-LAPD Chief Bernard Parks. Working with the LAPD and newly created Police Division, she tracked police litigation, advised the Human Relations Deputy Chief, consulted with trial attorneys on theories and approaches to the defense of lawsuits. She contributed immensely to the design and establishment of the LAPD's first-ever Risk Management Review Committee.

In 2001, she was appointed Managing Assistant of the newly created Police General Counsel Division, established to respond to the specific legal affairs of the LAPD. In this position, she managed and supervised 15 lawyers.

Last year, Cheryl joined the team of lawyers at LAX, advising the Airport Police on Homeland Security issues, state and federal Constitutional issues, and employment matters. She provided airport management with expert legal advice on federal mandates and minority and women business contracting. After 27 years of dedicated and extraordinary public service, Cheryl concluded her career as

a public servant. The Club congratulates Cheryl Ward on her extraordinary career and wishes her much joy in her retirement. Here are photos of the retirement dinner.

Cheryl Ward, retiree; and Rocky Delgadillo, City Attorney, with the certificate from City Attorney's Office.

More than 300 employees attended the retirement dinner May 14 for Cheryl Ward at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown L.A. She retired as a Senior Assistant City Attorney.

She joined the City Attorney's office in 1977 and served as a Deputy City Attorney in the Criminal Branch, where she tried more than 100 misdemeanor criminal trials, responded to discovery and search warrant motions in the Law and Motion Section of Central Trials, and eventually served as a criminal appeals deputy, where she initiated and responded to criminal appeals. She was promoted to supervisor of the Central Trials Division in 1979.

In 1981, she was appointed to serve as the chief of Criminal Branch Operations. She managed more than 150 trial attorneys and more than 100 support staff personnel. She implemented regular training programs for deputies long before mandatory continuing education, developed additional training scenarios for newly hired deputies, participated in greater recruitment and outreach to minority



Back left: Christy Ammons, City Attorney; Cynthia Trammell, City Attorney; Sherry Castaneda, City Attorney; and Wendy Hightower, City Attorney. Front, from left: Cheryl Mason, City Attorney; Kim Westhoff, City Attorney; Cheryl Ward, Retiree; Carol Medina, City Attorney; Joyce Huffman, City Attorney; and Wilma Pinder, City Attorney.



L-R: William Charles, Sr. Legal Clerk; Lisa Hughes, Legal Secretary; and Molly Roff-Sheridan, Deputy City Attorney.



Cheryl Ward's Family, from left: David Granberry Sr., brother; Aurelia Hovell, sister; Shervon Pool, grandniece; Tereasa Pool, great-grandniece; Marla P. Granberry, sister; and Vivian Colon, niece.



From left: David Gascon, Retired Assistant Chief of Police; Bernard C. Parks, Councilman, District 8; and Ronald W. Bergman, Deputy Chief.



From left: Jaclyn Laning; Carmen Qualls, the Cochran firm; and Belinda Stith, Council LA Unified.



From left: Cheryl Ward, retiree; and Earl Paysinger, LAPD Deputy Chief.



Tom Hokinson, Assistant General Manager DWP and former Chief Assistant City Attorney, acted as master of ceremonies.



From left: Judge William Ormasby, retired judge; Shirley Henderson, City Attorney; Sandra Carter, Health Administrator; and Pat Shade, Retired Deputy City Attorney.



From left: Philip Lam, City Attorney; Sherri Kirk, Former Deputy City Attorney; Mark Brown, General Council Division; and Tony Miera, City Attorney Rampart Division.



From left: Cheryl Ward, retiree, and Rocky Delgadillo, City Attorney, with the certificate from City Attorney's Office.



From left: Friends Sima Aleahmad and Marsha Mouton.



Mablean Ephriam, judge on the TV show Divorce Court and former Deputy City Attorney.



From left: Issa Keita, friend; Jo Keita, friend; Lee Copeland, friend; and Geoffry Ward, Cheryl Ward's son.



From left: Jonni Chambers, Sr. Legal Assistant City Attorney; Mark Burton, Sr. Assistant City Attorney; Jeannette Barry, City Attorney Investigator; and Paul Enox, Retired LAPD.



From left: George Mallory, former City Attorney, and his wife, Brenda.



From left: Josette Moore, City Attorney; and Joyce Huffman, City Attorney.



From left: Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Bernard C. Parks, Councilman, District 8; and Angel Gomez, the Club's Member Services Manager.



Brenda Lee Eager with the band.