



PRESS RELEASE

CITY OF LAGUNA NIGUEL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Laguna Niguel City Council Appoints New City Council Member to Fill Existing Vacancy

Laguna Niguel, CA – At the Wednesday, May 10, 2023, Special City Council Meeting, the Laguna Niguel City Council appointed Stephanie Winstead to serve as a City Council Member.



Stephanie Winstead will serve as a City Council Member until the results of the November 5, 2024, City Council elections are certified. “I am truly honored to be appointed as a City Council Member, and I would like to thank the City Council for putting their trust in me to serve our community,” said Winstead. “I promise that I will honor the efforts of those who built this city, and I will passionately uphold and promote the quality of life we have come to enjoy in Laguna Niguel.”

On April 18, 2023, the Laguna Niguel City Council directed City staff to begin the application process to appoint an individual to fill the City Council vacancy caused by the April 6, 2023, resignation of former City Council Member Rishi Paul Sharma. The City Clerk’s Office coordinated the application process similar to the City Council Commission and Committee recruitment and appointment process. The City Council interviewed eight applicants during the May 10, 2023, Special City Council Meeting, resulting in Ms. Winstead’s appointment.

Newly appointed Council Member Winstead has over a decade of experience serving the City of Laguna Niguel. Examples of her service include serving on the City’s Traffic and Transportation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Military Support Committee, and the Investment, Banking and Audit Committee. Additionally, she has served as the Chair of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors in 2019. Professionally, Winstead is a real estate attorney and is the founder and president of Winstead Law Group, APC located in Laguna Niguel.

“On behalf of the entire City Council, I extend my warmest welcome to Stephanie Winstead as our newly appointed City Council Member,” said Mayor Kelly Jennings. “I look forward to working together to serve our community and make a positive impact on the lives of our amazing residents. With her expertise and passion for public service, I am confident that this appointment will truly benefit our amazing city.”

The administration of oath for newly appointed Council Member Winstead will take place on May 16, 2023, during the Regular City Council Meeting. She will be eligible to run for a full term on the City Council in the November 2024 General Election.

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