



# PRESS RELEASE

CITY OF LAGUNA NIGUEL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Laguna Niguel City Council Selects Gene Johns as Mayor And Kelly Jennings as Mayor Pro Tem**

**Laguna Niguel, CA** – At the Tuesday, November 18, 2025, City Council Meeting, the Laguna Niguel City Council selected Gene Johns as the City's next Mayor and Kelly Jennings as the Mayor Pro Tem.



Mayor Gene Johns was appointed to the City Council in June 2023 and was reappointed in November 2024 for a four-year term. Mayor Johns served over 31 years as a Deputy Sheriff with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, including 24 years as a cross-designated Task Force Officer assigned to the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Since retiring in Laguna Niguel, Mayor Johns has remained actively involved in the community by volunteering with numerous civic and nonprofit organizations. He expressed his gratitude to serve as Mayor, stating, "I am honored and humbled to be selected as Laguna Niguel's next Mayor. It is a privilege to represent the residents of this community, and I want to acknowledge that effective leadership is always a team effort. My City Council colleagues and I will continue to work together with a shared commitment to keeping Laguna Niguel fiscally sound, safe, and one of the most beautiful cities in California. We remain dedicated to supporting our youth, seniors, veterans, and those in need, while working closely with our exceptional City staff to build on the strong foundation created by past City Council members. I am grateful to my family for their unwavering support, and I look forward to working with each and every one of you."

Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Jennings was first elected to the City Council in November 2020 and was appointed in November 2024 to serve a four-year term. "I am grateful and humbled to serve alongside my City Council colleagues. It is an honor to support our community in this role, and I am truly excited for the year ahead," said Mayor Pro Tem Jennings.

Mayor Johns and Mayor Pro Tem Jennings will serve in their respective roles through November 2026. To learn more about the Laguna Niguel City Council, please visit: [www.cityoflagunaniguel.org/citycouncil](http://www.cityoflagunaniguel.org/citycouncil).

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