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PRESS RELEASE

Downey Appoints New City Attorney

Downey, CA, September 14, 2023:

At the September 12th City Council meeting, the Downey City Council appointed John Funk as the Downey City Attorney effective September 18, 2023. His appointment concludes a nationwide search conducted by Bob Murray & Associates following the departure of the previous City Attorney in May 2022.

Mr. Funk has over 24 years of related legal experience working with different agencies. Before joining Downey, he served as the Chief Assistant City Attorney for the City of Santa Ana, where he worked since 2015. Previously, he was the Assistant University Counsel at Chapman University from 2006 to 2015. Mr. Funk earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from UCLA and a Juris Doctor from Whittier Law School.

“On behalf of my Council colleagues, I am thrilled to welcome John to Downey as our new City Attorney. His extensive legal experience, knowledge of municipal government and familiarity with Downey make him the best candidate for this key executive position,” said Mayor Claudia M. Frometa.

“Having grown up in Downey, the opportunity to serve in this role is especially meaningful to me. I am honored and look forward to contributing to the City’s goals in preserving and enhancing Downey’s status as an exceptional community to live and work,” Mr. Funk remarked.

The Downey City Attorney provides a full range of legal services to the City and is the chief legal advisor to the City Council, the Planning Commission, all City Departments and all appointed commissions, committees and boards. While performing duties as the City’s chief legal advisor, the City Attorney manages all outside counsel, drafts, reviews and negotiates city agreements and other legal documents, drafts and reviews ordinances and resolutions and provides legal support and guidance to each city department and their operations.

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