



CITY ATTORNEY JOHN RUSSO STATEMENT

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OAKLAND – City Attorney John Russo released the following statement today about the federal investigation of payroll and personnel issues at Oakland City Hall:

“The public deserves to know the truth about the allegations of ethical and legal breaches at City Hall. I am gratified that an independent agency with enforcement authority is investigating the validity of those allegations, and it is my job to make sure the city cooperates fully with the investigation.

Many Oakland residents have understandably and righteously lost confidence that the public’s business is being conducted on the level. That is why City Auditor Courtney Ruby and I have called on the City Council and Mayor Dellums to adopt a package of five reforms to make sure the public is better served by its city government.

These good government reforms will close loopholes and ensure that the city’s independent watchdogs (the City Attorney & the City Auditor) are no longer excluded from reviewing what the administration is up to in the area of personnel. Other initiatives in this package will clean up loose practices in records management and strengthen the ability of whistleblowers to report ethical and legal violations.

Details about the Real Oakland Administrative Reform (ROAR) campaign can be found on the City Attorney’s Office Web site: www.oaklandcityattorney.org.”
