

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Legal Department

R. Todd Hunt, Esq. is currently the City's Director of Law. He and his Public Law Group the law firm of Walter/Haverfield LLP are a dedicated team of strategic legal counselors and professional staff committed to serving the City of Richmond Heights by facilitating creative, customized solutions to municipal issues and problems, as well as defending the City in court actions and prosecuting misdemeanor crimes in the Lyndhurst Municipal Court. They have so served the City of Richmond Heights since 1995.

On May 14, 2014, after 19 years of service, R. Todd Hunt was relieved of his long-standing position as Director of Law by then-Mayor Miesha Headen and Jonathan D. Greenberg was relieved of his position as City Prosecutor by Mayor Headen shortly after that date.

Since the City was without legal counsel on May 27, 2014, the City Council engaged Walter/Haverfield, LLP to provide legal counsel to the City of Richmond Heights, per Ordinance 39-2014. Sara J. Fagnilli, Esq. from Walter/Haverfield LLP served as lead counsel to the City for a temporary period of time. The position of City Prosecutor was filled by Michael Cicero as a temporary appointment.

Effective November 1, 2014, Richmond Heights City Council confirmed then Mayor David H. Roche's re-appointment of R. Todd Hunt as Director of Law. Mr. Greenberg was re-appointed as City Prosecutor by Mayor Roche and confirmed by City Council, effective November 1, 2014.

Accomplishments:

In 2014, the Department of Law and special legal counsel appointed by City Council continued to guide City officials through many legal issues with advice related to the authority and obligations of various City officials, Charter provisions, preparing legislation on a variety of matters, defending the City in court actions, and the unique circumstance of a recall election of the Mayor. Throughout 2014, the City's Prosecutor continued to provide a high level of prosecution services to the City and its Division of Police, including training and advice to the Division's officers.

Moving Forward:

The Department of Law, under the leadership of R. Todd Hunt as Director of Law, will continue to provide the same high level of legal services to the City and all of its City officials as it has done over the past 19+ years, focusing on assistance with City problem solving, solid legal advice, litigation prevention, assertive defense of civil actions, and assertive prosecution of misdemeanors.