



## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT: DEPARTMENT OF LAW

R. Todd Hunt, Esq. is the City's Director of Law. He and under his direction, the Public Law Group at 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 civil court actions. They have so served the City of Richmond Heights since 1995.

The Director of Law also supervises the prosecution of criminal misdemeanor offenses in the Lyndhurst Municipal Court. Long-time City Prosecutor, Jonathan D. Greenberg, resigned as City Prosecutor in August of 2016, due to being appointed as a federal Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. Jonathan will be missed. However, the very capable Michael E. Cicero of the law firm of Nicola, Gudbranson & Cooper, LLC, was appointed by the Mayor and Director of Law to serve as the City Prosecutor. Mr. Cicero has a wealth of experience prosecuting for municipalities over many years and in the Lyndhurst Municipal Court.

### Accomplishments:

In 2016, the Department of Law continued to guide City officials through many legal issues with day-to-day advice to the Mayor, Council and Department/Division heads related to many municipal matters, employment and labor law advice, preparing legislation on a variety of matters, and defending the City in court actions. Throughout 2016, the City's Prosecutors 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 20 years, focusing on legal assistance with City problem-solving, solid legal advice, litigation prevention, assertive defense of civil actions, and assertive prosecution of misdemeanors.