

March 10, 2011

Sent via email to: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

California Citizens Redistricting Commission

Re: Recommendation for Redistricting Consultant, Douglas Johnson

Dear Members of the Commission:

As a concerned citizen of this state, I am wholly supportive of the tasks with which the Commission is charged. As a professional in the field, I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to recommend to the Commission that it give serious consideration to employing the services of Douglas Johnson to assist the Commission in its duties.

As legal counsel for many public entities throughout the state, I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Johnson on numerous occasions involving redistricting issues including the creation of trustee areas for board member elections. Notwithstanding the fact that redistricting can be a magnet for controversy, Mr. Johnson has always conducted himself in an unbiased and professional manner throughout these processes.

Not only is Mr. Johnson expert in the art and science of redistricting with its practical, political and legal nuances, he is also an excellent communicator and has a gift for explaining the complex in a manner that is readily accessible to laypersons.

Mr. Johnson has also developed cutting-edge systems and approaches for maximizing public input and participation at all stages of the redistricting process.

I have found his work to be timely, professionally and expertly performed and presented in an even-handed and accessible manner.

Should you have any questions regarding the foregoing, please feel free to contact the undersigned at your convenience.

Sincerely,

David A. Soldani

Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo