

DATE ISSUED: November 28, 2001

REPORT NO. 01-264

ATTENTION: Honorable Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT: Appointment of Assistant to the Library Director

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

I am pleased to announce that Esther Siman has been appointed as Assistant to the Library Director. Esther was selected from a very competitive field of highly qualified applicants.

Esther has been with the San Diego Public Library since 1976, when she started as a Branch Manager and is currently a Supervising Librarian with the Branch Libraries Division. Esther has served on various library and citywide committees, most notably the city wide Library Essay Contest, Livable Neighborhoods and the committee that implemented Community Service Centers. She has worked on special library projects such as department reorganization, numerous grants, including the Gates Foundation grant which awarded the Library approximately \$200,000 for computers. Esther currently serves on the Star/Pal Program Services Committee and is the Library Department's Risk Management and Energy liaison. Before joining the City of San Diego, her prior positions included: Director of the Ardmore Free Library in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, a librarian at San Diego State University and a librarian for the Muir Alternative School, San Diego City Schools. She is a member of the American Library Association, California Library Association and Public Library Association.

Esther has a Bachelors degree from the University of Wisconsin, a Masters degree in Library Science from Rutgers University Graduate School of Library Science and a Masters in Education from Michigan State University.

Esther is a resident of Del Cerro and has been active in her community, serving on the Navajo Community Planners and the San Carlos Area Council. She is currently a member of the Del

Cerro Action Council. Esther is married to Dr. Alan Siman, Associate Director of the School of Social Work at San Diego State University, and has a daughter, Jenna, who is currently pursuing her Masters in Education (Visual Arts Administration) at New York University.

As the Assistant to the Director, a major responsibility of this position will be the coordination of applications for grants from the State of California Library Bond Act of 2000. The Library Bond Act authorized the sale of \$350 million of state general obligation bonds for the purpose of funding library construction and renovation. The grant application process will be very competitive and the quality of the applications will be crucial to the Library=s success. The Assistant will also be assigned other special projects and assignments including participation on city wide committees.

Please join me in congratulating Esther on her new assignment.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Herring  
Deputy City Manager