



**BELL MAYOR HERNANDEZ APOLOGIZES FOR
EXCESSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE PAY;**

**WILL FINISH HIS TERM WITHOUT PAY
WON'T SEEK RE-ELECTION**

CITY OF BELL, CA July 26, 2010 – Apologizing to City of Bell residents for excessive salaries paid to top city administrators, Mayor Oscar Hernandez announced today that he will serve the City of Bell without pay for the remainder of his term. Additionally, Hernandez said that he will not seek re-election. Hernandez's term expires in March 2011.

Hernandez made the following statement:

"Since my first day as mayor, my priority has been to make Bell a city its residents can be proud to call home.

"To the residents of this great city, I apologize that the Council's past decisions with regard to the indefensible administrative salaries have failed to meet that test. We know we have hard work ahead of us to restore Bell's trust even as we work to maintain the unparalleled city services that our families depend on.

"As a first step to putting Bell on a new path forward in our governance, I will continue to serve our city without pay through the remainder of my term.

"While I will not be seeking a new term as Mayor, I would not be fulfilling my responsibilities as Mayor without working every day to ensure our essential city functions -- from safe streets and neighborhoods to children and senior services and our food bank -- continue to meet our city's needs.

"We must restore Bell's pride in our City and that requires a full, transparent, and deliberate review of the City's actions. To that end I will dedicate the remainder of my term to spearheading our city's cooperation with the Los Angeles County District Attorney and the California Attorney General's inquiries."

For any other information – Please contact the Public Info. Line (323) 923-2642 or go to www.bellcityclerk.org for the latest City of Bell Official Statements.