

Legal Pad

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Cop Union Endorses Challenger in Santa Clara DA Election

The city of Santa Clara's police union is saying it wants to shake things up in the district attorney's office.

A Friday alert from Jeff Rosen, the prosecutor challenging incumbent District Attorney Dolores Carr in the June election, announced that the Santa Clara Police Officers' Association has endorsed him. He had formally announced his campaign earlier this month.

The union turns fickle on Carr, after the jump ...

Union president Pat Nikolai confirmed the endorsement for Legal Pad, saying members of the group's board particularly liked Rosen's ideas for creating a cold-case unit and a "conviction integrity unit" (which would handle defense requests to review old convictions).

The union supported Carr in the last election. Nikolai said both were good candidates, but they wanted to give Rosen a shot at the position.

"About half my board is in the detective bureau, so they interact with the DA's office on a weekly if not daily basis," Nikolai said. "They all have nothing but good things to say about [Rosen]." The challenger's skills and enthusiasm for the job impress the cops, he added. "We think that's all going to translate into being a great district attorney."

— *Kate Moser*

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